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Traffic jams eat away at your health: Experts

Public transit users stay smug. Dangers of being stuck in a road snarl-up have been well documented

Quoted

"People who are exposed to frequent congestion three or more times a week have the highest self-reported levels of stress."

Murtaza Haider, director of the Institute of Housing and Mobility at Ryerson University

Here's a cheery thought to ponder if you sit in stop-and-go traffic during the lane closures on the Gardiner Expressway: Congestion isn't just making you late. It's insidiously harming your health, making you more prone to violence, fracturing your social relationships and sapping your very soul.

The negative health effects of traffic are well-documented, and our collective reliance on cars is tied to higher rates of obesity, diabetes and poor air quality.

"There's clearly exposure to all kinds of pollutants, some of which are irritants to the lungs, some of which are not good for your cardiovascular system, some of which are carcinogenic," said Dr. David Mowat, the medical officer of health for Peel Region.

Emissions are worse when a vehicle is idling, making stop-and-go traffic more harmful to your lungs, Mowat said.

Studies show that people with long commute times are less inclined to engage in social activities, be socially connected and be civically engaged, Mowat said.

Murtaza Haider, director of the Institute of Housing and Mobility at Ryerson University, studies commuter stress.

The key takeaway from his research is that, when determining stress, the length of a commute is less important than its reliability.

So what's a traffic-bound commuter to do? Leave the car behind. People who walk and bike to work report lower levels of stress, Haider said.

From a health perspective, even transit is a better alternative than driving because it requires you to walk up and down subway stairs, stand on the GO train or walk to the bus stop.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

NEWS WORTH SHARING.

Samuel Gonzalez, 16, left, and Georgianna Nagy, 16, pose with Humphrey the polar bear cub after hopping a fence during a school trip at the Toronto Zoo. Gonzalez took a video of himself and his friends petting Humphrey and posted it to his Instagram account. The zoo is now investigating and working with the teens' Mississauga school to determine appropriate discipline. For the story, go to page 3. To view the video, scan the photos with your Metro News app or go to metronews.ca.

CONTRIBUTED

FOR SELFIE'S SAKE

Canada snubs gay rights advocates

Ten Ugandan activists invited to Toronto's World Pride human rights conference refused visitor visas PAGE 4

Support for Rob Ford slipping

The mayor has never been less popular, with a poll suggesting his approval rating sank to 32 per cent PAGE 3

Military takes over Thailand

The country's army seizes power in bloodless coup, suspending the constitution and detaining cabinet ministers in a bid to end political upheaval PAGE 12

Time warp, X-Men style

Wolverine goes back in time to set the future straight in the latest instalment of the X-Men franchise PAGE 17

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Rob Ford's approval rating falls

Forum poll. Doug's approval results even lower

New low

32%

Rob Ford's approval rating in a new poll — the rating marks a new low for the scandal-plagued mayor

Rob Ford has never been less popular, a poll suggests, and his brother is liked even less.

The mayor's approval rating sank to a new low, 32 per cent, in a Forum Research poll conducted on Wednesday. That is down from 38 per cent in a Forum poll done on May 1, immediately after he announced he was taking a leave of absence to seek help for his problem with alcohol.

Prior to that poll, his approval rating had appeared impervious to scandal. He had confounded critics by managing to stay at 40 per cent or higher in all but one of the 39 surveys released by Forum since February 2012.

The Wednesday results were not all bad for Ford. They suggest he remains in third place in the mayoral election, weaker than when he launched his campaign but still within striking distance.

Olivia Chow had the support of 36 per cent of respondents, John Tory 27 per cent, Ford 24 per cent, and David Soknacki and Karen Stintz three per cent apiece.

The new poll comes amid uncertainty about Ford's plans. He has not announced a date for his return to office or to the race, and Councillor Doug Ford, his campaign manager, has refused to rule out the possibility that he will take his brother's place on the ballot.

Doug Ford's approval rating was a mere 30 per cent; 66 per cent disapproved of him. By contrast, 68 per cent approved of Tory, while 32 per cent disapproved; 59 per cent approved of Chow, 41 per cent disapproved; 50 per cent approved of Soknacki, 50 per cent disapproved; and 49 per cent approved of Stintz, 51 per cent disapproved.

Operatives for rival campaigns have long believed that even a scandal-weakened Rob Ford is a more formidable candidate than Doug Ford, who does not share the mayor's history of constituency work or his everyman persona.

Doug Ford has not been definitive this week when asked if Rob Ford will resume his run.

"As far as I know," he told CP24 on Tuesday. "I'll wait until I talk with Rob," he told the Globe and Mail in an article published Thursday.

"Rob will make that decision. We'll have to see."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

What's this about skimpier clothes?

Jamie Ellis smiles after The Scotiabank Caribbean Carnival's media kickoff at the Ontario Science Centre Thursday. According to organizers it's going to be bigger, louder, and the men's costumes are apparently skimpier. They also announced changes in the parade, new events and new locations. For a full listing of changes, go to metronews.ca. STEVE RUSSELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Toronto Zoo may lay trespassing charge after teens hop barrier

The Toronto Zoo is working with a Mississauga school to find the appropriate discipline for a couple of teens who hopped a fence at the polar bear maternity exhibit to touch a baby polar bear and take selfies with it while on a field trip last week.

Despite some rumours, the school, Mississauga's Michael Power/St Joseph High School, has not been banned, said zoo spokesperson Jennifer Tracey.

"There is an ongoing investigation," she said. "The school is fully co-operating with it."

Zoo officials are using a video the teens took and posted online in the investigation.

"Everyone has the video. I don't think they realize, that's what happens when you post things on social media," said Tracey.

The zoo is working with the school to come up with "appropriate measures" for the students. It's possible the zoo could lay a trespassing charge under its bylaws against the students. "This was reckless behaviour. It was clear from the video they knew that they were going over a barrier," Tracey said.

Student Sam Gonzalez contacted Metro and said he thought the zoo was overreacting. "We were there for about 10 seconds until someone from the staff told us to get out," he said. He also pointed out that Prince Charles got to feed a polar bear at the Manitoba Zoo this week.

A teen with the bear. CONTRIBUTED

JESSICA SMITH CROSS/METRO

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Site attempts to expose lawyers breaking rules

Temporary foreign worker program. One lawyer considering libel suit after activist sends baiting email

JESSICA SMITH CROSS
jessica.smithcross@metronews.ca

One lawyer is threatening to sue and another is blaming a staff member after a blogger tried to entrap immigration lawyers into abusing the temporary foreign worker program.

Rohana Rezel runs a site about the temporary foreign worker program, NTFW.ca.

He sent an email to four law firms saying that his company, Big Jimmy's Construction, is looking to use the temporary foreign worker (TFW) program to hire his Thai wife's brother and bring him to Canada. However, too many qualified Canadians applied, even though he "made the qualifications as strict as possible and kept the salary as low as possible to discourage Canadian applicants."

The situation as described would go against the rules of the TFW program meant to help employers fill jobs when there are no qualified Canadian applicants.

Yohana Blanco responded on behalf of the Toronto-based Law Office of Adela Crossley.

"Ms. Crossley is a high qualify lawyer, as she has done numerously LMO applications and her rate of success is high. Trust me when I say that she would find a way around the fact that there are suitable Canadian candidates, she is very creative," she wrote.

LMO is short for Labour Market Opinion, the application process for the TFW program.

Lawyer Adela Crossley told Metro that's not what her firm does.

"It is most unfortunate to see Yohana's choice of words. English is not her first language and she is my Spanish interpreter, as I have many Spanish clients. I can assure you that I will address this email with her, when she returns. I am not happy about it and it in no way reflects what I do."

A second lawyer, Alex Stojicevic of Vancouver-based Maynard Kischer Stojicevic replied to Rezel's email saying, "We would be pleased to try to help, but it will likely take awhile. Let me know when the best time to talk would be."

Stojicevic said he doesn't give legal advice over email, and was instead following his usual procedure of inviting potential clients to call.

"I certainly did not make any comment on whether or not what the writer of the e-mail was suggesting was legal or not. Often in my practice I have to tell people that the result they are looking for is unrealistic, or illegal," he wrote in an email to Metro.

Stojicevic told Metro he is now considering legal action against Rezel for libel, because of the way Rezel wrote about him and his firm in a blog post.

Motive?

Rezel claims to be motivated by a desire to expose abuses of the TFW program and that he's not anti-immigrant, as some people have assumed, but an immigrant himself. He said he wants to make NTFW.ca "self-sustaining" by allowing companies to pay $20 to be on a list of "patriotic" employers.

Another lawyer wrote back to the fictitious "Big Jimmy's Construction" to say that what was being proposed is against the program's rules.

"I don't advise you to proceed with your plan," lawyer Vanessa Routley responded. "If you have hundreds of qualified applicants you should hire one of them." She went on to suggest that the brother-in-law might find a legal route to immigrate to Canada through the skilled trades program.

Reached by phone, Routley said that in order for "Big Jimmy's" plan to be successful the employer and the lawyer would have to lie on the approval documents.

"The fact that people would agree in black and white goes to show you there is no fear of enforcement of the rules whatsoever," she said.

Routley said she gets inquiries about once a week from people seeking to abuse the program in some way, for financial gain.

Fighters step up to help KO cancer

Andrew Young flexes while competitor Derek Van Doorn looks on during the weigh-in for the Third Annual Fight To End Cancer. The unofficial weigh-in was held at bar Grace O'Malley's, a sponsor of the event. Its general manager, Chris Taylor, had been planning to attend the event, but was unable to as he had received a potentially life-saving stem cell transplant to treat acute myeloid leukemia, after waiting for a donor match since 2012. The fight, and related gala on May 31, benefits the Princess Margaret Cancer Foundation. JESSICA SMITH CROSS/METRO

Pride invitees denied

Canada has refused to issue visitor visas to 10 Ugandan activists invited to Toronto's World Pride human rights conference in June over concerns they may stay to seek asylum.

Gay rights advocates say the decisions by the Canadian visa posts in Nairobi and London speak to the hypocrisy of the Harper government which, in February, joined other Western nations in condemning Uganda for passing one of the world's harshest anti-homosexuality laws.

Conference co-chair Brenda Cossman said the first visa denial was reported in early April but concerns grew when other Ugandan invitees all had their applications rejected.

Frank Mugisha, a prominent Ugandan LGBTQ advocate, is the only one who has a valid visa to the conference as its keynote speaker. He has a multiple-entry visa from his previous travels.

In eight of the applications, officials concluded they did not believe the applicants had a legitimate business purpose in Canada. In six, the officers said the applicants did not have the money to "carry out your stated purpose in going to Canada or to maintain yourself while in Canada and to effect your departure."

Denied

The 10 men and women are among 160 speakers and 400 delegates from over 40 countries invited to the conference.

Toronto-Danforth NDP MP Craig Scott is working with Immigration Minister Chris Alexander's office to address the visa issue.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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TTC'S UNION STATION ON TRACK FOR SECOND PLATFORM THIS SUMMER

ANDY BYFORD
CEO
TORONTO TRANSIT COMMISSION

Amid the ongoing and necessary debate about transit expansion, it is easy to forget how much transit-related construction is already underway.

In addition to projects like the Toronto-York Spadina Subway Extension and the Metrolinx Eglinton Crosstown LRT, the TTC is busy working on a large number of construction and expansion projects.

On Tuesday (May 20), I previewed the second platform under construction at Union Station that will provide much-needed additional capacity to one of our busiest subway stations.

Union Station was the southern terminal for the original section of Line 1 (Yonge-University-Spadina). It was constructed over 60 years ago with a single, and very narrow, centre platform that, today, struggles to cope with a daily customer throughput greater than that handled by Pearson International Airport.

It was good to visit the site and to see first-hand just how much progress is being made. Contractors are now working on the finishes to the new platform that will eventually service Yonge northbound trains when it opens this summer.

After that, we will progressively refurbish the existing University-bound platform, moving stairs and escalators to provide more space. The plan is to have the new ticketing and mezzanine area – the entire subway station, in fact, including access to the 509 and 510 streetcars – finished in time for the Pan Am/Parapan Am Games next summer.

Add to that, continuing work to build elevators, second exits and the construction of the new streetcar maintenance and storage facility – Leslie Barns – and these are indeed busy times at the TTC.

EMPLOYEE PROFILE

Name: Sydney Somerville | **Position:** Subway Ambassador | **Years of Service:** 4 (summer student)

My time as a summer student with the TTC has greatly encouraged my future aspirations. Being able to work with customers and assist them with their needs has made me realize how much I love working in customer service. I truly hope that I'll be able to keep working with the TTC on a full-time basis so I can continue getting people in the city to where they need to be.

DOORS OPEN – MEET YOUR NEW RIDE AT THE TTC'S RUSSELL CARHOUSE

The TTC will be opening its doors this Saturday, May 24, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. as part of the 14th Annual Doors Open Toronto event. The public is invited to visit Russell Carhouse (Queen St. E. just east of Greenwood Ave.) to see the brand new streetcar, and check out our beautiful vintage streetcars. Please note that the last admissions will be at 4:45 p.m. Admission is free.

The new low-floor streetcar will modernize the TTC's streetcar fleet, with accessibility features, all-door boarding, air conditioning, a designated space for bicycles, greater capacity and a more reliable, smoother, quieter ride.

The first streetcar is scheduled to enter service on August 31 on the 510 Spadina line. As production vehicles arrive and are commissioned by the TTC, the new car will begin to service more routes. Full deployment across the streetcar network is expected by 2019.

WEEKEND LINE 2 CLOSURE – WOODBINE TO KENNEDY STATIONS

On Saturday, May 24, and Sunday, May 25, Line 2 (Bloor-Danforth) will be closed from Woodbine to Kennedy stations for scheduled track upgrades. Frequent shuttle buses will operate between Woodbine and Kennedy stations, with Wheel-Trans buses available to accommodate customers who use wheelchairs, scooters and other mobility aids. Regular subway service resumes on Monday, May 26.

This work is part of ongoing track replacement required near Victoria Park Station. Due to the complexity of the work – replacing what is called a cross-over, as well as the track bed and switches in the area – another weekend closure is required June 14-15. As well, during regular service, trains are required to operate slowly through the work area, creating minor delays for customers during weekday morning and afternoon rush-hour periods. Track upgrades will be complete by the end of June.

TTC ADJUSTING QUEEN ST. E. SERVICE TO IMPROVE TRAVEL TIMES DURING CONSTRUCTION

Since construction began May 11 at Queen St. E. and Leslie St., as well as at Queen St. E. and Victoria St., the TTC has been closely monitoring service and making adjustments to help improve reliability on the 501 Queen, 502 Downtowner and 503 Kingston Road streetcar routes. The TTC has heard from its customers and are making the following adjustments to improve overall performance.

Effective immediately until May 31:
501 Queen streetcars travelling westbound will divert via Queen, Coxwell, Gerrard, Broadview, Queen, Church, King, York, Queen to regular routing. This change will significantly improve service across the line and reduce congestion at the intersection of King St. W. and Spadina Ave. There is no change to the eastbound routing, which will continue to divert via Queen, Spadina, King, Church, Queen, Broadview, Gerrard, Coxwell, Queen to regular routing.

Effective Thursday, May 22 - May 31:
The **503 Kingston Road** routing is being combined with the **502 Downtowner** routing, with all buses terminating westbound at Church St. and Queen St. E. to allow for a faster return trip along Queen St. E. This will improve service for customers in the Beach and Leslieville who have told us that service is unreliable and/or buses are too crowded due to long waits.

Service has been increased on the 31 Greenwood, 83 Jones, 72 Pape and 143 Downtown/Beach Express connecting buses for customers looking for an alternate route. The intersection at Leslie St. is scheduled to re-open on June 21 and at Victoria St. on May 31.

In addition to the streetcar track and switch upgrades underway, the work at Leslie St. and Queen St. E. is also taking place to prepare for the new low-floor streetcars and connection track at the Leslie Barns, the new modern streetcar storage and maintenance facility. Work to replace an 80-year-old watermain at the intersection and beneath Leslie St. is also part of construction efforts.

HOW TO CONTACT US:
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World Trade Organization.
Canada loses appeal to lift ban on seal hunt products

Canada lost its bid to overturn Europe's ban on imported seal products Thursday, but seized on World Trade Organization findings that aspects of the embargo breach international obligations.

A WTO appeal decision released in Geneva upheld a previous ruling that the European Union ban is "necessary to protect public morals" regarding animal welfare.

It says the embargo "constitutes a means of arbitrary or unjustifiable discrimination," particularly because of how exemptions for seal products from Inuit or indigenous communities are handled.

It also found "considerable ambiguity" in how terms such as "subsistence" are used for Inuit harvests. Canada appealed a November ruling that said while the EU seal ban undermines fair trade, those restrictions can be justified on "public moral concerns" for animal welfare.

At issue was a challenge by Canada and Norway of the 28-member EU's 2010 ban on the import and sale of seal fur, meat and other products.

Terry Audla, president of the Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami representing about 55,000 Canadian Inuit, said his people were never consulted and never agreed with the embargo or its uneven exceptions, adding that Inuit hunters are trying to feed their families and make a living in the modern economy.

"It is morally reprehensible for anyone to impede those goals, which are the basic rights of any citizen of the world," he said.

Fisheries Minister Gail Shea said in an interview that federal officials are still assessing the decision. It's the end of the line for appeals at the WTO, but said Ottawa will still support the industry through new product research and other measures.

Sheryl Fink, director of Canadian wildlife campaigns for the International Fund for Animal Welfare, said the decision could ultimately protect other species. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Widow, soldier suing Khadr for $45M US

A civil suit. Tabitha Speer alleges that the then 15-year-old Khadr was responsible for her husband's death

The widow of a U.S. special forces soldier killed in Afghanistan and an American soldier blinded by a grenade are suing Canada's Omar Khadr for almost $45 million US, The Canadian Press has learned.

In the lawsuit filed Thursday in Utah, Tabitha Speer and Sgt. Layne Morris allege Khadr, then 15, was responsible for the death of Sgt. Christopher Speer and Morris's injuries in July 2002.

The factual basis for the suit, according to their lawyer, is Khadr's guilty plea to five war crimes before a U.S. military commission in Guantanamo Bay in October 2010 that saw him sentenced to a further eight years in prison.

The plea deal included a stipulation of facts in which Khadr, now 27, admitted to murder and attempted murder in violation of the rule of war, and three other war crimes.

"We took his own very words," lawyer Don Winder said in an interview from Salt Lake City.

The Toronto-born Khadr, currently incarcerated in the Bowden Institution in Innisfail, Alta., has since said he only pleaded guilty to get out of Guantanamo Bay and be returned to Canada.

Khadr's lawyer said his client had yet to be served with the suit nor has he ever had an opportunity to defend himself in a civil proceeding.

"They are relying upon the tainted, internationally decried Guantanamo process," Dennis Edney said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tabitha Speer, widow of Sgt. 1st Class Chris Speer, and former sergeant Layne Morris speak to reporters on the sentencing of Omar Khadr at his military commission at Guantanamo Bay on Oct. 31, 2010. COLIN PERKEL/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Pamela Anderson's mom 'numb' over abuse claims

Pamela Anderson's mother says she is shocked and devastated by recent allegations her daughter made that she was sexually abused and gang raped as a child.

Carol Anderson, who revealed her heartbreak to British tabloid newspaper The Daily Mail, said she had no idea of the abuse her daughter allegedly endured while growing up on Vancouver Island. She is especially shocked her daughter kept it a secret for so long.

"I am kind of numb over it all, I sat there with my mouth open when I found out. My husband Barry and I always felt we were there all the time for the kids so it's just terrible to hear this now," Carol said in the interview.

The actress and animal rights activist, who was born in Ladysmith, B.C., detailed the alleged sexual abuse during an emotional speech at the launch of her animal rights charity.

"I did not have an easy childhood," Anderson said. "Despite loving parents, I was molested from age six to 10 by my female babysitter. I went to a friend's boyfriend's house and when she was busy the boyfriend's older brother decided he would teach me backgammon, which led in to a back massage, which led in to rape. My first heterosexual experience. He was 25 years old, I was 12."

Anderson went on to allege that her first boyfriend in Grade 9 "decided it would be funny to gang rape me with six of his friends." THANDI FLETCHER/METRO IN VANCOUVER

Calgary

Man accused of murder found mentally fit for trial

A man accused of killing five young people in Calgary has been found fit to stand trial. Matthew de Grood, 22, is charged with first-degree murder after four men and a woman were stabbed to death at a party last month to mark the end of the school year. THE CANADIAN PRESS

B.C.

Orphaned cubs alive thanks to community efforts

Two orphaned bear cubs are alive and in a B.C. rehabilitation centre thanks to the efforts of some hikers, dirt bikers, nature photographers and wildlife experts.

The cubs were spotted Sunday on a rural road outside the southeast B.C. community of Cranbrook. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Alberta

Soldier dead after armoured vehicle rollover

The LAV III, which served as an eight-wheeled, armour-plated military workhorse for Canadian soldiers in Afghanistan, faced scrutiny Thursday after a rollover that killed Lt.-Col. Dan Bobbitt, a commanding officer, in Alberta. Four other soldiers were also injured in the crash. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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500 Canadians get set to observe Ukraine election

Ensuring fairness.
Proud to help uphold democracy, Canadians travelling overseas will be keeping their eyes wide open

DYLAN C. ROBERTSON
toronto@metronews.ca

Olga Radchenko is heading back to her birth country — but not to visit relatives.

"The current situation has become so incredibly polarized," says the 28-year-old, who moved to Toronto with her Ukrainian family at the age of 10. "I want to play a positive role. I hope this can help resolve the crisis."

Radchenko left on Victoria Day as one of 500 Canadians observing Ukraine's election. For a third time in a decade, a large delegation of Canadians are taking weeks off work to head to Ukraine. They'll be attending campaign rallies, inspecting polling stations and watching ballot counts.

"I feel nothing short of honoured," says Radchenko, echoing two other election observers who spoke to Metro. "I think it's a great role for Canada to play."

Governments who struggle with corruption often invite election observers from other countries to deter voter fraud, bolstering an election's credibility. Ukraine's Sunday election is being monitored by the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), a group supported by 57 governments including Canada, the U.S. and Russia.

Radchenko has a good understanding of her 10-day duty as a short-term observer.

"The general job description is to be an unbiased observer of the electoral process leading up to the election; and the days of the vote counting, to watch carefully and to record what's happening."

The OSCE gives observers intensive training upon arrival in the country of the vote. Observers normally wear a lanyard, which election officers are trained to recognize. Observers are instructed to watch for anything that leads to an unfair vote.

Some examples given by monitoring groups include: making sure ballot boxes are empty before voting starts, verifying poll booths are secure, watching for intimidation, listening for campaigning from election officers, detailing how many ballots were disqualified and why, and making sure ballot boxes aren't whisked away.

Most monitoring groups require observers stay in groups of two. Generally, observers don't speak or ask questions unless they're senior monitors investigating an incident. Observers take meticulous notes — often a detailed form for short-term observers — and report to their team leader, who supervises groups of five to 20 people. The findings are usually tallied in a brief report shortly after the vote and a more detailed one afterward.

Long-term observers like Michael MacKay of Ottawa are in Ukraine for up to 10 weeks. They're monitoring campaigns and media coverage and tracking the electoral commission's logistics down to individual polling stations. Generally, they issue weekly reports and welcome the short-term observers.

"There's an external pressure that was not present last two terms," says MacKay, who also monitored Ukraine's vote in 2010 and 2004, when Canada first sent a large delegation. "The stakes are higher than they've ever been."

Governments who send delegates usually assign independent organizations to recruit and select observers. OSCE guidelines suggest candidates with prior monitoring experience and language skills. Most observers get their foot in the door by applying for a country they've studied or lived in, according to Canada's main civilian-reserve group, Canadem.

Many of the 1,500 Canadians who applied to observe Ukraine's election are among the 1.2 million Canadians with Ukrainian roots. There's also a contingent of academics who observe multiple elections. MacKay worked with people who had served in Kosovo, Sri Lanka and Haiti.

Transportation, insurance, meals and accommodation are covered by the governments — our government estimates the 500-strong delegation will cost $10 million.

But for the observers it's a big time commitment for a vote with no guaranteed outcome, as Metro's Saskatchewan columnist Christina Cherneskey knows well.

"To call the 2012 election democratic is a sham. I left without even knowing who won," Cherneskey recalls.

While voting went smoothly, she had to stay up all night to make sure nobody tampered with the ballot boxes. When someone finally came in the morning, they drove the ballots to the district office, where things seemed chaotic. Inside, it was an "exhausting, intense fiasco" where every scribble and acronym was used as an excuse to toss out votes.

"I left feeling empty," she said.

Past votes

Canada regularly sends a handful of experienced observers to oversee elections. For example, two long-term observers joined an OSCE-led mission tracking Mongolia's presidential elections last June. Others include:

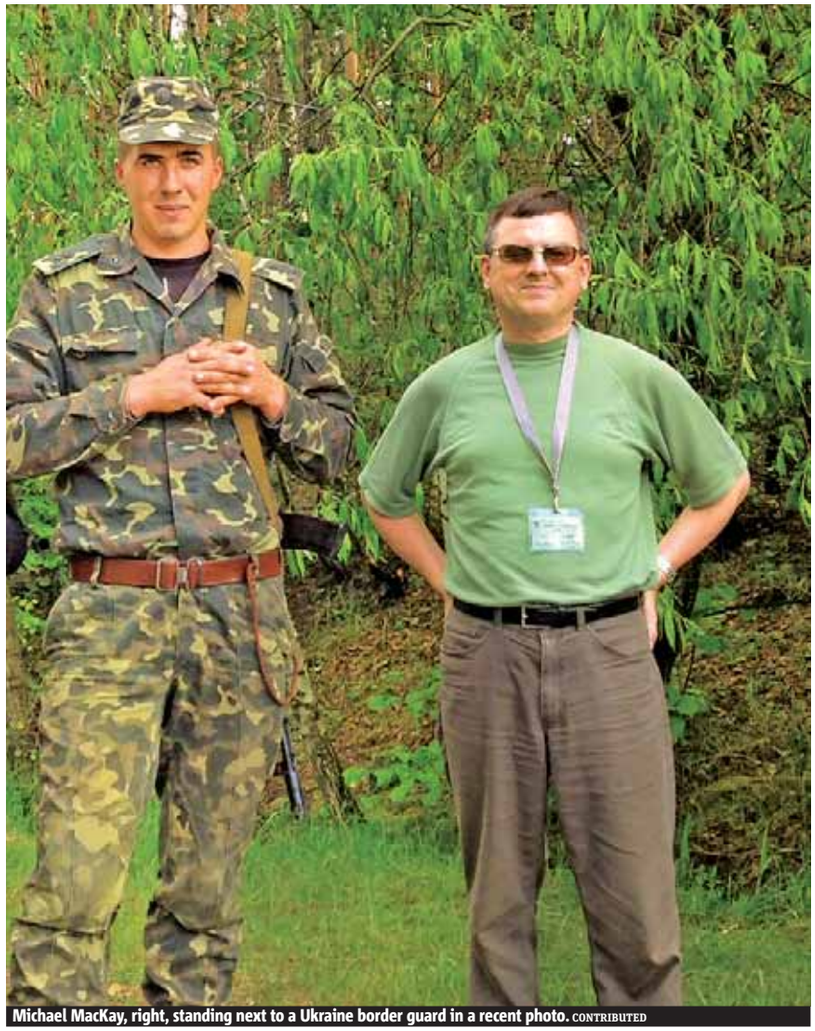
- Ukraine's 2012 parliamentary election — 490 observers
- Haiti's 2011 presidential election — 30 observers
- 2006 Palestinian parliament — 58 observers

SOURCE: CANADEM

History

Modern election monitoring started with an 1857 vote in Romania, but the concept gained popularity after the end of the Cold War, as countries like Ukraine embraced democracy.

- While monitors produce a report, having watchers deters vote rigging.



Michael MacKay, right, standing next to a Ukraine border guard in a recent photo. CONTRIBUTED

Olga Radchenko

"I know that (the OSCE) has done this ... in various countries and in Ukraine specifically, so I'm not concerned."
Communications consultant, Toronto, short-term observer

Michael MacKay

"The mood isn't exhilaration; it's a determination. They're very realistic; they know there could be bad outcomes."
IT consultant and instructor, Ottawa, long-term observer

Christina Cherneskey

"I'd say 95 per cent of people were happy we were there. They would thank us."
Radio producer and Metro columnist, Regina, former long-term observer

Nigerian president gives protesters cold shoulder

'Bring back our girls!'
President sends proxy out to talk to crowd, statement urges them to stop criticizing

Scores of protesters chanting "Bring Back Our Girls" marched Thursday to Nigeria's presidential villa to demand more action to free nearly 300 schoolgirls abducted by Islamic militants, but President Goodluck Jonathan did not meet with them, leaving a proxy to deliver a lecture that further angered the demonstrators.

"Another small window for Jonathan and he refuses to use it!" one protester yelled. "What a stupid move!"

The protesters complained that Jonathan did not even meet some of the parents of abducted children who came to see him earlier this month.

Many schools across the country also closed Thursday to protest recent abductions and the killings of scores of teachers by Islamic extremists.

In Maiduguri, the northeast city that is the birthplace of Boko Haram, protesting teachers said they "can no longer tolerate government insensitivity to the plight of the girls and the education sector."

In Abuja the marchers sang, "All we are saying is bring back our girls," to the tune of John Lennon's "Give Peace a Chance." Cabinet ministers and aides told the crowd of about 300 people that Jonathan was not home. A message from the president was read urging Nigerians to unite and stop criticizing the government.

Civil society groups were counselled to "encourage Nigerians to supply useful information to the security services." That inflamed the crowd since that is exactly what residents of Chibok did. If the military had responded to their warnings, the girls might never have been kidnapped. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

West blamed

Boko Haram — the nickname means "Western education is forbidden" — blames Western influences for endemic corruption that keeps most Nigerians in poverty despite the country's wealth of oil, minerals, agriculture and thriving movie industry.

People attend a demonstration in Abuja, Nigeria, calling on the government to rescue almost 300 kidnapped schoolgirls. SUNDAY ALAMBA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

80 personnel

U.S. joins hunt for schoolgirls

Eighty U.S. Air Force personnel have begun their mission in Chad to help locate nearly 300 schoolgirls kidnapped in neighbouring Nigeria, a U.S. military spokesman said Thursday.

The girls and young women were kidnapped on April 15 from a school in the northeast Nigerian town of Chibok by an Islamic extremist group known as Boko Haram. The group's leader has threatened to sell most of the estimated 276 schoolgirls still being held into slavery unless the Nigerian government releases detained militants.

President Barack Obama told Congress in a letter Wednesday about the deployment.

Obama said the service members will help with intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance aircraft for missions over northern Nigeria and the nearby region. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

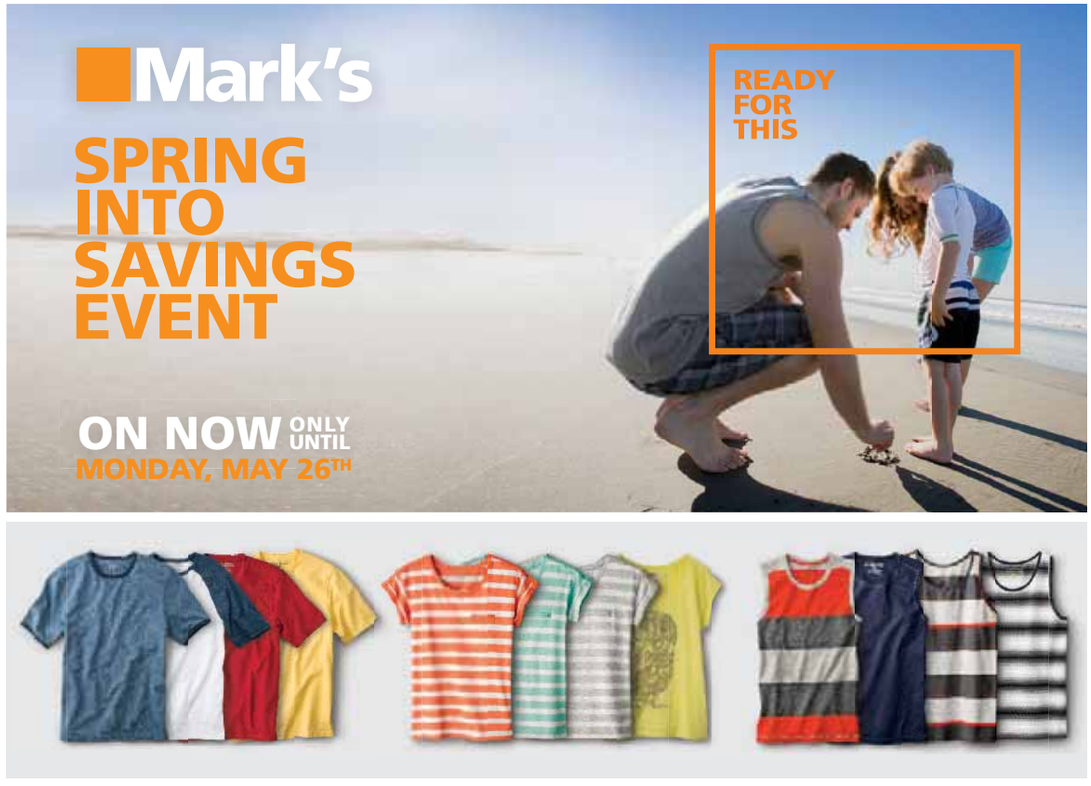
Death toll at 130. Search goes on for bomb victims

Family and friends of the wounded and missing continued to search for victims Thursday in the wake of two bomb blasts that rocked a bustling marketplace in the Nigerian city of Jos.

Residents say government action could have helped avert at least one of the two bombings Tuesday. The death toll has risen to at least 130, making them the deadliest bombings yet committed by Boko Haram extremists.

Market vendors said their suspicions were aroused by a white van that had been parked for hours under a pedestrian bridge, according to Mark Lipdo of the Christian charity Stefanos Foundation. He said they warned soldiers near a checkpoint, but nothing was done.

Many of the dead may never be identified, University of Jos student leader Dickson Odeh said after his group searched several hospital mortuaries. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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Thai army stages bloodless coup

Constitution scrapped. Nationwide curfew ordered; 18 government officials ordered to report to new governing military commission

Thailand's military seized power Thursday in a bloodless coup, dissolving the government, scrapping the constitution and dispersing groups of protesters from both sides of the country's political divide who had gathered in Bangkok and raised fears of a violent showdown.

The powerful army chief, Gen. Prayuth Chan-ocha, announced the military takeover in a statement broadcast on national television. It was followed by additional announcements including a nationwide curfew from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. and an order for 18 government officials — including the ousted prime minister — to report immediately to the country's new governing military commission.

Soldiers kept a low profile in the centre of the capital. But as the curfew approached, troops diverted traffic at key intersections and used armoured personnel carriers to block some main roads, including the one in front of the U.S. Embassy.

Soldiers dispersed most demonstrators from two protest sites where competing groups were camped out — one backing the now-ousted elected government and another that had struggled for seven months to unseat it.

Although the military insisted it wasn't taking sides, its ousting of the government met the key goal of the anti-government protesters. The pro-government "Red Shirt" supporters had earlier said they would not tolerate a coup, but there were no immediate signs of resistance or reports of violence. The military provided hundreds of buses to take the protesters home.

An army spokesman later announced that it had dissolved the caretaker government and cancelled the constitution, but the Senate would remain in place. He said Prayuth would assume the duties of the prime minister until a new one was in place.

The army also ordered the suspension of all television broadcasting and replaced programming with patriotic music to fill air time between announcements.

The coup was the 12th since Thailand's absolute monarchy ended in 1932.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bombings. Attackers kill 31 in China

Attackers hurled bombs from two SUVs that plowed through shoppers at a busy street market in China's volatile northwestern region of Xinjiang on Thursday, killing 31 people and wounding more than 90.

The early morning attack in the city of Urumqi was the bloodiest in a series of violent incidents over recent months that Chinese authorities have blamed on radical separatists from the country's Muslim Uighur minority.

Uighur activists contend that restrictive and discriminatory policies favouring the Chinese migrants are fuelling the bloodshed.

The two vehicles crashed through barriers at 7:50 a.m. and drove right into the crowds while setting off explosives, according to a statement by the Xinjiang regional government. It was unclear how many assailants were in the cars. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Mining machinery and barrels of chemicals at the facilities of Barrick Gold Corp.'s Pascua-Lama project in northern Chile. JORGE SAENZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Barrick. World's largest gold producer hit with lawsuit over mine project

Several Canadian law firms are pursuing a class action against Barrick Gold Corp. and some of its current and former senior officers, alleging they misrepresented how much risk the company faced when it undertook construction of the multi-billion-dollar Pascua-Lama mine project in South America.

The project involves one of the world's largest deposits of gold, estimated at nearly 18 million ounces, but the company missed its original target of starting production in early 2013 due to opposition from local groups and Chilean authorities. THE CANADIAN PRESS

That's a lot of ounces

18M

The multibillion-dollar project involves one of the world's largest deposits of gold, estimated at nearly 18 million ounces.

'We are worth more!' Protesters not lovin' the low pay at McDonald's

McDonald's CEO Don Thompson sought to address a growing chorus of critics on issues including worker pay and marketing to children at its annual meeting Thursday.

As hundreds of protesters chanted for higher wages outside, Thompson told the audience in the building that the company has a heritage of providing job opportunities that lead to "real careers."

"We believe we pay fair and competitive wages," he said.

A day earlier, McDonald's closed one of its buildings in Oak Brook, Illinois, where protesters had planned to demonstrate. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Facebook

Dino reminds you your mom can see that drunk post

More Facebook users can expect to see a blue cartoon dinosaur popping up in their feeds, reminding them to check their privacy settings.

No stranger to privacy fiascos, Facebook had already made the tool available to users who were posting public updates.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Market Minute

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HASHTAG DICTIONARY SELFIE

THE METRO LIST

Neil Morton
metronews.ca

1 Happy birthday, Mr. Rubik('s cube): The addictive Candy Crush is all the rage nowadays, but back in the day it was the offline game Rubik's cube. The cube turned 40 this week and its birthday trended on Twitter. Google even honoured it with a supercool 3D interactive doodle. I never could solve the darn thing, but man it was a badge of honour to carry it around at school — almost completed.

2 #Dictionary. Further proof (like we needed it) that social media is where it's at: among the new words added to Merriam-Webster's 2014 collegiate dictionary are "hashtag," "selfie," "tweep" and "crowdfunding." Yep, it's cool to read the dictionary again, kids. Just make sure to live-tweet it as you study it — and watch your auto-correct.

3 Corey Hart about to hang up the sunglasses (at night). The '80s teen icon behind the hit singles Sunglasses at Night and Never Surrender has announced his May 31 concert at the Bell Centre in Montreal will be his last performance. Also, he's releasing a self-published memoir, Corey Hart: Chasing the Sun. Here's hoping it includes a chapter on how we all chased his spiky hair look.

4 Cine-please, the movies are expensive enough. The movie chain is doing a pilot program at the Varsity location in Toronto's Manulife Centre where patrons can pay extra to get prime seats in the middle rows of the theatre. This idea will either be a box-office smash or bust. Either way, it better come with extra-comfy chairs and buttered popcorn delivered to my seat.

5 See Doogie Howser, M.D. in celebrity rehab? Neil Patrick Harris's website teased out a unique upcoming autobiography that lets you choose the narrative — and the path of his life. Choose the right path on this adventure biography and get a tryout for Doogie Howser, M.D. Choose the wrong one and you could land yourself, er, him on a stint of Celebrity Rehab.

6 Enduring imagination. Brayden Denton, a five-year-old from Newton County, Ind., who died of brain cancer earlier this month, was a huge fan of superheroes — his favourite being Spider-Man. So when he passed away, his pallbearers dressed as Spidey, Batman, Superman, Thor, The Hulk and Iron Man. Brayden is in superhero heaven, now. R.I.P., little guy.

7 May the Force (for Change) be with you. Donate $10 and you could have the chance to appear in J.J. Abrams' Star Wars: Episode VII sci-fi sequel. This is part of a new charity campaign run by Disney called Star Wars: Force for Change, and the proceeds go to UNICEF's Innovation Labs. Great idea that more movies and TV shows should embrace and offer fans.

8 Polar bear, Pooh-Bear and the prince. It didn't have the hoopla of Will and Kate's rock star-esque tour of 2011, but Prince Charles and Camilla's four-day visit to Nova Scotia, P.E.I. and Manitoba did draw buzz in a country that loves its royals. It was capped off in Winnipeg with a bear theme as Charles fed a polar bear at Assiniboine Park Zoo and then they visited the Winnie the Pooh Gallery museum.

ZOOM

This is too close to bear!

German photographer Ingo Arndt got close to this brown bear using a robo-camera vehicle. COURTESY INGO ARNDT

Wildlife photography

Photog uses robo-car to snap bear

Grizzly bears may look cute and cuddly, but they can also pull off a wicked death scare. The many personalities of the brown bear (Ursus arctos) have been captured by award-winning wildlife photographer Ingo Arndt, who travelled to the remote Lake Clark National Park in Alaska to document the majestic beast. MWN

Up close and personal

"This female coastal brown bear still had her very woolly winter coat. The weather was just perfect for the photo: warm light on the bear's head, nice clouds and a blue sky. She really looks both fearsome and affectionate."

Ingo Arndt, wildlife photographer based in Langen, Germany

Book cover

Arndt's photos of grizzlies feature in new book "Coastal Bears" (Küstenbären), published by Knesebeck.

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In this issue, you can find AR enhancements on pages 17 and 25 in Scene and page 31 in Sports

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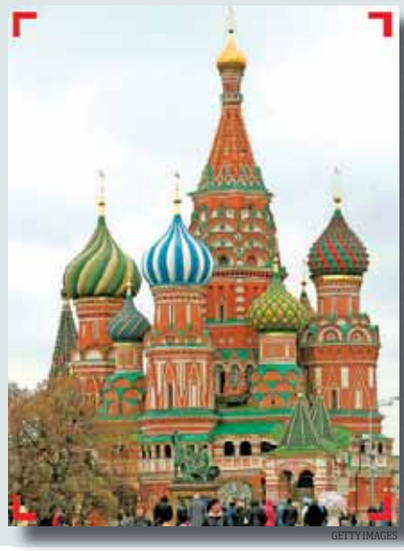
MetroTube

"Meanwhile in ..."

ANDREW FIFIELD
metronews.ca

Look, we get it. The "Meanwhile in Russia" thing is getting old and likely looking forward to retirement in Played Out country.

But sometimes one comes across a video — with zero context, mind you — that appears to be evidence of behaviour that sits so comfortably at the point where bizarre and reckless meet that, well, the only way to introduce it is "Meanwhile in Russia." (VideoCompilationTV/YouTube)



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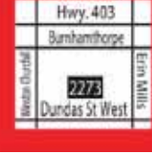

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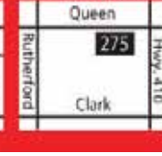

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See that symbol? It means you can scan the photo with your Metro News app and watch a clip from X-Men.

Mutant time travel a real trip

Reel Guys

RICHARD CROUSE AND MARK BRESLIN

Hugh Jackman stars in X-Men: Days of Future Past. CONTRIBUTED

Synopsis

Based on a 1981 two-issue special of the X-Men comic series, the new film begins in a post-apocalyptic future. Menacing robot warriors called Sentinels have created chaos for the mutant race, bringing them to the edge of extinction. To combat the threat, long-time enemies Professor X (Patrick Stewart) and Magneto (Ian McKellen) team up with Storm (Halle Berry), Blink (Fan Bingbing), Bishop (Omar Sy) and use Kitty Pryde's (Ellen Page) teleportation ability to send Wolverine (Hugh Jackman) back in time to change history and prevent the creation of the murderous automations.

- **Richard:** ●●●●○
- **Mark:** ●●●●○

X-Men. The latest instalment lives up to the franchise's reputation for smart, fun summer fare

Richard: Mark, Days of Future Past offers up two for the price of one. Merging the young versions of Magneto and Professor X with their older counterparts is a cool idea, and certainly gives the movie a boost in the marquee department, but I felt the old timers were left with their own heightened sense of drama and not much else. It seems a shame to have McKellen and Stewart, the Martin and Lewis of mutants, on screen together and not give them much to do. What did you think?

Mark: This instalment really belongs to McAvoy, Jackman, Jennifer Lawrence and Michael Fassbender. I didn't care for the "future" plot with the fogey mutants, but I thought the movie snapped to attention when it flashed back to 1973. The sense of time and place seemed very authentic; in one scene Lawrence is dressed exactly like Carly Simon on the cover of her third album. I half expected her to launch into a rendition of You're So Vain at Fassbender. There's some interesting historical revisionism revolving around JFK and Nixon that even conspiracy theorists would find preposterous — more X-Files than X-Men — but I appreciated the creative effort.

RC: It's a movie about time travel, mutants and serious actors like Michael Fassbender saying lines like, "We received a message from the future," so, of course, it's a little preposterous, but wrapped up in the time-bending plot are some interesting ideas about racism, tolerance, war and rebellion. Not usually the stuff of summer blockbusters, but the X-Men franchise has always been a bit brainier than most. At times it's a bit too ponderous, but I'll take that over the flash-and-trash of most CGI epics.

MB: Me too. I like the franchise for its superior acting, plotting, and its whiff of Ayn Rand objectivism. But it's got a sense of humour, too, which is rarely found in these epics. There's a fantastic scene in this movie where Evan Peters as the young Quicksilver, who can move faster than human time, rearranges an entire tableau of bad guys so they wind up hurting themselves instead of our heroes. But he does it with such juvenile glee that it captures the joy of being a powerful mutant and an adolescent prankster. And casting height-challenged Peter Dinklage to play a scientist out to destroy the "outsiders" is brilliantly ironic.

RC: The actors are all good, but I would argue that the real stars of the film are the ideas. Magneto, Professor and Wolverine are all complex, cool characters that bring the film's themes to life; all the rest is set dressing, except for the Quicksilver scene you mentioned. That was like The Matrix without Keanu's hangdog expression.

MB: Oh, and just a warning, Richard. When I googled the film there was a link to a movie called XXX Men. Do NOT click on this link!

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Gone to the dogs. Cannes features formidable four-legged performances

Actress Camilla Rutherford on set of Palm Dog on Thursday in Cannes. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The race from the kennel is tightening for Cannes' top canine prize, the Palm Dog, announced Friday.

Proving that the film industry is truly a dog eat dog world, four-legged performances have stolen the show in a number of pictures screened at the festival. And there's no clear front runner.

Commentators had said that until now, the most impressive canine scene came from a dog that plays Moujik in Bertrand Bonello's Saint Laurent, the French fashion designer's beloved pet.

In a realistic performance that had audiences moaning, the French bulldog stumbles clumsily and dies after munching though the myriad pills that have been scattered on the designer's floor as he passes out.

But on Wednesday, following the screening of Jean-Luc Godard's opaque 3D film, Goodbye to Language, social media commentators say there's new top dog: Mieville, the director's real-life pet. The loveable long-nosed protagonist plays Roxy, who rolls in the snow and wags his tails as a narrator says: "A dog is the only thing on this earth that loves you more than he loves himself."

Dogs also have starring roles in Kornel Mundruczo's movie White God, a strong horror-thriller movie in which Hungary is befallen by a canine apocalypse.

In the more supporting role category, the Argentine film Juaja, directed by Lisandro Alonso, features a faithful dog with a skin disorder who leads Viggo Mortensen back on the right path, in a key point of the film. And in Map to the Stars there is also a strong supporting performance by a glossy-haired dog, who rolls over motionless after's he's accidently shot by a 13-year-old movie star.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Filmmaker sheds light on Night Moves

Behind the greens. Kelly Reichardt peeks into the psyches of environmental terrorists

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News in Hollywood

Night Moves stars Dakota Fanning, Jesse Eisenberg and Peter Sarsgaard. CONTRIBUTED

Filmmaker Kelly Reichardt's Night Moves offers an intimate look into the lives of three radical environmentalists (played by Jesse Eisenberg, Dakota Fanning and Peter Sarsgaard) looking to blow up a hydroelectric dam as a form of protest. And it's quite a detailed look — though she stops short of actually explaining how to build a bomb.

Environmental issues seem to be popping up in films more and more, as the issue is clearly not going away.

But it's been part of the conversation for a really long time. I can't remember when Earth First started, but people have been trying to lay their bodies down in front of bulldozers that are going to knock down trees for quite a while now, you know? But nevertheless, we were just really trying to make something that was today and just create a world, basically.

Where did this idea come from?

I don't know, it's been in the air with us for a while. My producer, Neil Kopp, was born and raised in Oregon, and Neil had grown up with a kid who had done something pretty radical that put him in jail for a while. If you're in the Northwest, it's around you. It's easy to wonder where the waterways came from, it's easy to look at the clear-cuts. People talk about the salmon a lot, so it's all sort of in the air. But then also I had just re-read Crime and Punishment and we were drawn to this type of process film, like Rififi, where you take time out in the middle of a film to really show how something's done. That was really attractive to me, the small steps to get to something as opposed to the big moment at the end of it. Basically how to take this little world

Kelly Reichardt. GETTY IMAGES

that we hadn't seen represented in film so much and put it into the framework of a more traditional genre, and what would that look like?

Of course, when you're showing how people construct a bomb, you don't want to be too detailed.

Oh, you can go on the Internet and figure out how to build a bomb really quickly if you want, you know? For better or worse. I don't think ours acts as a real how-to guide in any way.

Right, you aren't naming types of charges or fuses, at least.

No, but you can Google Timothy McVeigh and find out everything you ever wanted to know, sadly, about building a bomb. You might not even want to put that in your article. My father was on the bomb squad for 20 years in Miami when I grew up, and I can remember being a teenager and some of my sister's friends stealing some of my dad's bomb-building books. The information's out there.

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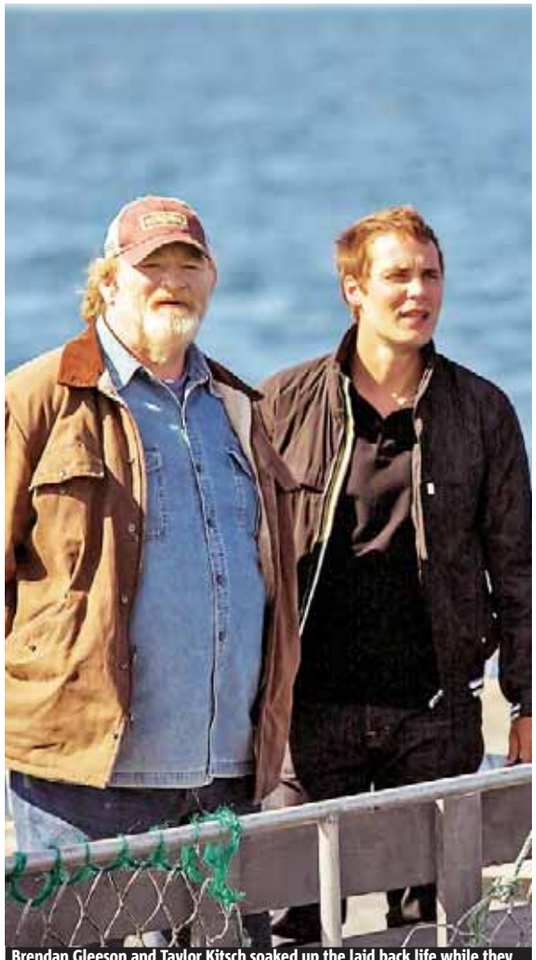
At participating restaurants. © Tim Hortons, 2014

Falling in love with The Rock



Brendan Gleeson and Taylor Kitsch soaked up the laid back life while they were filming The Grand Seduction, which opens next Friday. CONTRIBUTED

The Grand Seduction. Brendan Gleeson and Taylor Kitsch lived the laid- back life while filming movie

RICHARD CROUSE
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

The Grand Seduction premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival last September, but the movie's star was more concerned about an audience a little east of there.

"I felt they would let us know if they didn't like it," says Brendan Gleeson.

The film is set in a small Newfoundland harbour named Tickle Head where the town fathers have a bid on a petrochemical byproduct repurposing plant that makes ... well, it doesn't matter, as they say in the movie, it makes jobs.

One key element that's missing, however, is a local doctor.

When Paul Lewis (Taylor Kitsch), a city slicker plastic surgeon, lands in the harbour for a month-long residency, the entire place (population: 121) bands together to convince him to stay — by any means necessary.

"I really wanted to be at the premier in St. John's," said Gleeson, who is best known as Alastor 'Mad-Eye' Moody in the Harry Potter series, "because to me, if the movie worked there, I could let it go.

"That's all I cared about, really. It needed to have the imprimatur of the Newfoundlanders on it for me. Their reaction was quiet until they felt the reassurance that it was OK, that they could trust it a little bit more."

The production spent seven weeks shooting on The Rock.

"The land and the sea in Newfoundland has a way of worming itself into your heart where you don't feel quite complete without it," said Gleeson.

Co-star Kitsch concurs. "It's a very simple (way of life)," he says, "and obviously the pace is a lot slower, but once you get into that, you don't want to leave it.

"They are very in the moment when you're talking to them.

"You feel like they are incredibly genuine and grounded and there's no ulterior motive," he said. "Maybe I'm a bit jaded because of the business, but it is refreshing. It is kind of what it means to be a Canadian."

Kitsch spent his off hours training for Lone Survivor, a Mark Wahlberg war film he shot immediately after wrapping on The Grand Seduction but he took some time to enjoy a great Newfoundland pastime — fishing.

"My best friend is an avid fisherman," he says, "so he'd be figuring out what was going on with the moon and what the best tide is and when we should go and would get genuinely upset if we weren't there at exactly 6:12 a.m. dropping lures into the water."

The Kelowna, B.C.-born Kitsch is an in-demand actor these days and can currently be seen in the HBO movie The Normal Heart, but says he'd love to do more work in Canada. "I absolutely loved being in Canada," he says, "working on home soil with a bunch of Canadians. "If the opportunity presents itself and it's right, I'm in."

Quoted

"If the opportunity presents itself and it's right, I'm in."

Taylor Kitsch. Actor
The B.C. born Kitsch on why he jumps at an opportunity to work in Canada when it arises.

Ratings and synopses courtesy of Rotten Tomatoes. For more movie reviews, trailers and news go to RottenTomatoes.com. **Ratings:** *Certified Fresh:* *Fresh:* *Rotten:* *Audience response:* *Audience anticipation for the film:* +

Comedy

Blended

Director. Frank Coraci

Stars. Adam Sandler, Drew Barrymore

After a disastrous blind date, single parents Lauren and Jim agree on only one thing: They never want to see each other again. But when they each sign up separately for a fabulous family vacation with their kids, they are all stuck sharing a suite at a luxurious African safari resort for a week in Blended, the third comedy collaboration between stars Adam Sandler and Drew Barrymore.

Rotten Tomatoes™ score
Critics: 11% **Audience:** + 87%

Drama

Fading Gigolo

Director. John Turturro

Stars. John Turturro, Woody Allen

Fioravante decides to become a professional Don Juan as a way of making money to help his cash-strapped friend, Murray. With Murray acting as his "manager," the duo quickly finds themselves caught up in the crosscurrents of love and money.

Rotten Tomatoes™ score
Critics: 54% **Audience:** 51%

Documentary

112 Weddings

Director. Doug Block

Stars. Various couples

After two decades of filming weddings, Doug wondered what became of those couples. Are they still together? How have they navigated the ups and downs of marriage over the long haul? Driven by curiosity to answer these questions, he tracks down and interviews his wedding couples to ask one question: After years of being married, what would your advice be for a young couple soon to be married?

Rotten Tomatoes™ score
Critics: **Audience:** + 100%

Documentary

Fed Up

Director. Stephanie Soechtig

Stars. Katie Couric

Everything we thought we knew about food and exercise for the past 30 years is dead wrong. Fed Up is the film the food industry doesn't want you to see. From Katie Couric, Laurie David (Oscar-winning producer of An Inconvenient Truth) and director Stephanie Soechtig, Fed Up will change the way you eat forever.

Rotten Tomatoes™ score
Critics: 78% **Audience:** + 85%

Comedy

The Love Punch

Director. Joel Hopkins

Stars. Pierce Brosnan, Emma Thompson

Spanning locations in Paris, London and the French Riviera, The Love Punch brings together Pierce Brosnan and Emma Thompson for the first time, as ex-husband-and-wife Richard and Kate, whose biting banter suggests that the flames of their relationship have not been fully extinguished ... Unfortunately the same cannot be said for their retirement nest egg which is wiped out when Richard's investment firm is defrauded and the pension fund is siphoned away.

Rotten Tomatoes™ score
Critics: 24% **Audience:** 74%

Drama/Comedy

Million Dollar Arm

Director. Craig Gillespie

Stars. Jon Hamm, Suraj Sharma

Million Dollar Arm follows J.B. Bernstein, a once-successful sports agent who now finds himself edged out by bigger, slicker competitors. He and his partner Aash (Aasif Mandvi) will have to close their business if J.B. doesn't come up with something fast. Late one night, while watching cricket being played in India on TV, he comes up with an idea so radical, it just might work. Why not go there and find the next baseball pitching sensation?

Rotten Tomatoes™ score
Critics: 64% **Audience:** + 92%

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THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., MAY 23 TO THURS., MAY. 29. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

Bloor Hot Docs Cinema
506 Bloor St. W.

112 Weddings (PG) Fri-Sat 4-6:30 Sun 4-9:15 Mon 6:30 Tue 4-9 Wed 3:30-9:15 Thu 6:30
Finding Vivian Maier (PG) Wed 6:30 Thu 8:45
Mistaken for Strangers (G) Mon 8:45
Pete Seeger... A Song and a Stone (STC) Fri-Sat 8:45 Thu 4
Rock and Roll's Greatest Failure: Otway the Movie (STC) Sun 6:30
A Small Act (G) Tue 6:30

Carlton, 20 Carlton St.

Baseball: Toronto vs. Kansas (STC) Thu 7
The Birder (STC) Fri-Thu 1:30-4-7:10-9:15
Blended (PG) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:05-6:45-9:20
The German Doctor (PG) Fri-Wed 1:20-7 Thu 1:20
Godzilla (PG) Fri-Thu 1:15-1:35-3:55-4:15-6:30-6:55-9:10-9:30
Ida (PG) Fri-Tue 1:45-6:55 Wed 1:45 Thu 1:45-6:55
Little Terrors Horror Shorts (STC) Wed 9
The Lunchbox (PG) Fri-Tue 1:30-3:50-6:50-9:25 Wed 1:30-3:50-9:25 Thu 1:30-3:50
Million Dollar Arm (PG) Fri-Thu 1:25-4:05-6:40-9:20
Neighbors (18A) Fri-Thu 1:50-4:25-6:45-9
The Other Woman (STC) Fri-Thu 4:10-9:35
The Railway Man (14A) Fri-Tue 4-9:25 Wed 4 Thu 4-9:25
Wildsound Feedback Festival (STC) Thu 7

Scotiabank Theatre
259 Richmond St. W.

The Amazing Spider-Man 2 3D (PG) Fri 1:25-4:30-7:55-11:05 Sat 4:10-7:15-10:20 Sun 1:25-4:30-7:55-11:05 Mon 1:15-4:20 Tue-Thu 2:40-6-9:10
The Amazing Spider-Man 2: An IMAX 3D Experience (PG) Fri 12:45-3:50-7-10:10 Sat 10:45-1:45-4:45-7:45-10:50 Sun-Mon 12:45-3:50-7-10:10 Tue-Thu 12:50-3:50-7-10:10
Divergent (PG) Fri 12:45-4-7:25-10:40 Sat 1:05-4:20-7:25-10:40 Sun 12:45-4-7:25-10:40 Mon-Thu 12:40-3:40-6:45-9:50
The Metropolitan Opera: Werther - Encore (STC) Sat 12 Mon 6:30
Million Dollar Arm (PG) Fri 1:15-4:20-7:25-10:20 Sat 11:15-2:05-4:55-7:55-10:50 Sun 1:15-4:20-7:25-10:20 Mon 12:45-3:30-6:20-9:20 Tue-Thu 12:40-3:30-6:20-9:20
A Million Ways to Die in the West (14A) Thu 10:20
Neighbors (18A) Fri 12:55-2:15-3:20-4:55-5:50-7:35-8:30-10-10:55 Sat 11:40-12:40-2:15-3:15-4:55-5:45-7:25-8:20-10-11 Sun 12:55-2:15-3:20-4:55-5:50-7:35-8:30-10-10:55 Mon 2:15-2:55-4:45-5:15-7:20-8:10-9:40-10:30 Tue-Thu 12:55-2:15-3:15-4:45-5:40-7:20-8:10-9:40-10:30
Oculus (14A) Fri 2:50-5:30-8:05-10:40 Sat 12:15-2:40-5:15-8-10:30 Sun 2:50-5:30-8:05-10:40 Mon 1:45-4:10-10:20 Tue-Wed 2:50-5:15-7:40-10:10 Thu 1:40-4:10-9:50
The Raid 2: Berandal (18A) Fri 12:35-3:50-7:10-10:30 Sat 11:45-3:05-6:25-9:50 Sun 12:35-3:50-7:10-10:30 Mon 2:45-10:15 Tue 12:30-3:40-7:10-10:20 Wed 12:30-3:40-10:20 Thu 12:30-3:40-7:10
X-Men: Days of Future Past (PG) Fri 12:35-3:40-6:45-9:50 Sat 12:55-3:55-7:05-10:10 Sun 12:35-3:40-6:45-9:50 Mon 1-3:30-4-6:30-7-9:30-10 Tue 12:30-3:30-6:30-9:30 Wed 12:30-3:30-6:30-7:10-9:30 Thu 12:30-3:30-6:30-9:30
X-Men: Days of Future Past 3D (PG) Fri 1:05-2:05-2:35-3:05-4:10-5:10-5:40-6:10-7:15-8:15-8:45-9:15-10:30 Sat 11:25-11:55-12:25-1:20-2:25-2:55-3:25-4:25-5:30-6:05-6:35-7:35-8:40-9:10-9:40-10:40 Sun 1:05-2:05-2:35-3:05-4:10-5:10-5:40-6:10-7:15-8:15-8:45-9:15-10:30 Mon 2-2:30-3-5-5:30-6-8-8:30-9 Tue 1-2-2:30-3-4-5-5:30-6-7-8-8:30-9-10 Wed 1-2-2:30-3-3:50-5-5:30-6-8-8:30-9-10 Thu 1-2-2:30-3-4-5-5:30-6-7-8-8:30-9-10 Fri 1:35-4:40-7:45-11 Sat 11-1:55-5-8:05-11:10 Sun 1:35-4:40-7:45-11 Mon-Thu 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:30

Market Square
80 Front St. E.

Blended (PG) Fri 12:25-3:25-6:50-9:20 Sat 12:25-3:25-6:50-9:20-11:40 Sun-Mon 12:25-3:25-6:50-9:20 Tue 12:25-3:25-6:50-9:20-11:40 Wed 12:25-3:25-6:50-9:20 Thu 3:25-6:50-9:20
Godzilla (PG) Fri 12:50-3:50-7-9:45 Sat 12:50-3:50-7-9:45-11:30 Sun-Mon 12:50-3:50-7-9:45 Tue 12:50-3:50-7-9:45-11:30 Wed-Thu 12:50-3:50-7-9:45
The Grand Budapest Hotel (14A) Fri-Wed 7:10-9:30
Maleficent (STC) Thu 7-9:15
Million Dollar Arm (PG) Fri-Sat 1-4-6:55-9:40 Sun-Mon 4-9:40 Tue 1-4-6:55-9:40 Wed 4-9:40 Thu 1-4-6:55-9:40 Sun-Mon 1-6:55 Wed 1-6:55
Neighbors (18A) Fri-Thu 12:30-2:45-5-7:15-9:25
Rio 2 (G) Fri-Wed 12:15-2:35-5 Thu 12:15-2:35
X-Men: Days of Future Past (PG) Fri 12:45-3:45-6:45-9:35 Sat 12:45-3:45-6:45-9:35-11:20 Sun-Mon 12:45-3:45-6:45-9:35 Tue 12:45-3:45-6:45-9:35-11:20 Wed-Thu 12:45-3:45-6:45-9:35

Revue Cinema
400 Roncesvalles Ave.

Crankyfest 2014 (STC) Thu 7
Draft Day (PG) Fri-Mon 9 Tue 7
Even the Rain (STC) Sun 3
Finding Vivian Maier (PG) Fri 7 Sat 4-7 Sun-Mon 7 Tue-Wed 9:15 Wed 2-9:30
Mr. Peabody & Sherman 3D (G) Sat 2 Sun 1
They Live (STC) Thu 9:30

The Royal
608 College St..

Autonomy (STC) Sat 4
Bad Words (14A) Fri 7 Sat 9 Sun 4 Wed 9:15 Thu 9
Coraline (PG) Sun 2
Enemy (18A) Fri 9 Sat-Sun 7 Thu 7
The Human Centipede (STC) Fri 11:30
No Films Showing Today (STC) Mon
The Nut Job (PG) Sat 2
A Tale of Two Sisters (STC) Wed 7

Varsity
55 Bloor St. W.,

The Amazing Spider-Man 2 (PG) The Amazing Spider-Man 2 (PG) Fri-Thu 12:30 The Amazing Spider-Man 2 3D (PG) Fri-Thu 3:45-7:05-9:40
Belle (PG) Fri-Thu 1:45-4:20-6:50-9:25 Fri-Sun 1-3:30-6:05-8:40 Mon-Thu 1:15-3:45-6:20-8:55
Fading Gigolo (14A) Fri-Thu 12:15-2:50-5:25-8-10:35 Fri-Sun 12-2:35-5-7:30-10 Mon-Thu 12:50-2:55-5:15-7:40-10
Fed Up (G) Fri-Tue 12:35-3-5:20-7:45-10:10 Wed 3-5:20-7:45-10:10 Thu 12:35-3-5:20-7:45-10:10
The Grand Budapest Hotel (14A) Fri-Thu 2:05-4:35-7:15-10:15
Locke (14A) Fri-Tue 12:50-3:05-5:15-7:35-9:50 Wed 12:50-3:05-9:50 Thu 12:50-3:05-5:15-7:35-9:50 Fri-Sun 12:10-2:10-4:30-6:30-9 Mon-Thu 2:10-4:25-6:30-9
Under the Skin (STC) Fri-Thu 1:20-4-6:35-9:10
X-Men: Days of Future Past 3D (PG) Fri-Mon 1-4:10-7:20-10:30 Tue 1:05-4:15-7:25-10:35 Wed-Thu 1-4:10-7:20-10:30 Fri-Thu 12:40-3:40-6:40-9:45

Canada Square
2200 Yonge St.

Bears (G) Fri 3:40-5:40-7:40 Sat-Sun 1:40-3:40-5:40-7:40 Mon-Thu 4:20-6:20
Captain America: The Winter Soldier (PG) Sat 12:10 Sun 1:30
Captain America: The Winter Soldier 3D (PG) Fri 3:20-6:20-9:20 Sat 3:10-6:10-9:10 Sun 4:30-7:30 Mon-Thu 4:10-7:10
Divergent (PG) Fri 3:30-6:30-9:30 Sat 12:20-3:20-6:20-9:30 Sun 1-4-7 Mon-Thu 3:50-7 Only Lovers Left Alive (14A) Fri 3:50-6:40-9:25 Sat 1-3:50-6:40-9:30 Sun 12:30-3:20-6:10-9 Mon-Thu 3:45-6:25
The Other Woman (STC) Fri 4-6:40-9:10 Sat 1:30-4-6:30-9 Sun 12:40-3:10-6-8:30 Mon-Thu 4-6:40
The Railway Man (14A) Fri 4:10-6:50-9:20 Sat 1:20-4:10-6:50-9:20 Sun 12:20-3-5:30-8 Mon-Thu 4:40-7:10
Rio 2 (G) Sat 12:30 Sun 12:10
Rio 2 3D (G) Fri 4-6:30-9 Sat 3-5:30-8 Sun 2:40-5:10-7:50 Mon-Thu 4-6:30
Young & Beautiful (STC) Fri 3:45-6:10-8:30 Sat 1:10-3:30-6-8:30 Sun 1:10-3:30-5:50-8:20 Mon-Thu 4:30-6:50

Mt. Pleasant Theatre
675 Mt.Pleasant Rd.

The Monuments Men (PG) Fri 8:55 Sat 9:10 Sun 7 Wed 7
No Films Showing Today (STC) Mon
Philomena (PG) Fri-Sat 7 Sun 4:30 Tue 7 Thu 7

Regent Theatre
551 Mt.Pleasant Rd.

Finding Vivian Maier (PG) Fri-Sat 4:30 Sun 7 Thu 7
No Films Showing Today (STC) Mon Wed
Le Week-end (14A) Fri-Sat 7 Sun 4:30 Tue 7

Yonge-Eglinton Centre
2300 Yonge St.

The Amazing Spider-Man 2 (PG) Fri 12 Sun-Tue 12 Thu 12
The Amazing Spider-Man 2 3D (PG) Fri 3:15-6:30-9:55 Sat 3:20-6:35-9:50 Sun 3:15-6:30-9:55 Mon 3:15-9:55 Tue 3:15-6:30-9:55 Wed 3:30-10:10 Thu 3:15
Blended (PG) Fri 1-4:05-7:10-10:05 Sat 10:55-1:35-4:30-7:25-10:30 Sun 1-4:05-7:10-10:05 Mon 11:50-2:30-5:10-7:55 Tue 1-4:05-7:10-10:05 Wed 4:05-7:10-10 Thu 1-4:05-7:10-10:05 Star & Strollers Screening, Wed 1
Godzilla (PG) Fri 12:30-3:30 Sat 10:55-1:45 Sun 12:30-3:30 Mon 12:30-3:25 Tue 12:30-3:30 Wed 12:20-3:20 Thu 12:30-3:30
Godzilla 3D (PG) Fri 1:20-4:20-6:40-7:25-9:45-10:30 Sat 1:05-4:05-4:40-7:05-7:40-10:05-10:40 Sun 1:20-4:20-6:40-7:20-9:40-10:30 Mon 1:20-4:20-6:20-7:20-9:20-10:20 Tue-Thu 1:20-4:20-6:40-7:20-9:40-10:30
Maleficent 3D (STC) Thu 7-9:45
The Metropolitan Opera: Werther - Encore (STC) Sat 12 Mon 6:30
Million Dollar Arm (PG) Fri 1:50-4:50-7:55-10:50 Sat 11:10-2:05-5:10-8:05-10:55 Sun 12:50-3:40-6:50-9:50 Mon 12:50-3:40-6:50-9:45 Tue 12:50-3:40-6:50-9:50 Wed 3:50-6:50-9:50 Thu 12:50-3:40-6:50-10 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Neighbors (18A) Fri 12:15-2:40-5:10-8:15-10:45 Sat 12:10-2:40-5:20-8:15-10:45 Sun 12:15-2:45-5:15-7:50-10:25 Mon 12:20-2:50-10:40 Tue 12:15-2:45-5:15-7:50-10:25 Wed 12:10-2:30-5:15-7:50-10:25 Thu 12:15-2:45-5:15-7:50-10:25
X-Men: Days of Future Past (PG) Fri 12-3:05-6:20-9:35 Sat 11:50-3-6:10-9:20 Sun 12-3:05-6:20-9:30 Mon 12:40-3:50-7-10:10 Tue 12-3:05-6:20-9:30 Wed 12-3:10-6:20-9:30 Thu 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:30
X-Men: Days of Future Past 3D (PG) Fri 12:40-3:50-7-10:15 Sat 12:20-3:40-6:50-10:15 Sun 12:40-3:50-7-10:15 Mon 12-3:05-6:40-10:15 Tue 12:40-3:50-7-10:15 Wed 12:30-2:45-7-10:15 Thu 12:40-3:50-6:30-7-9:45-10:15 Fri 1:35-4:40-7:45-10:50 Sat 11-1:55-4:55-7:55-10:55 Sun 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:35 Mon-Wed 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:30 Thu 12-3:05

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Belle (PG) Fri-Thu 12:15-2:40-5:10-7:45-10:40
Blended (PG) Fri-Wed 1:30-2:25-4:15-5:15-7-8-9:45-10:45 Thu 1:30-4:15-5:15-7-8-9:45-10:45 Star & Strollers Screening, Thu 2
Cabin Fever 3: Patient Zero (STC) Thu 7:30-10:30
Captain America: The Winter Soldier 3D (PG) Fri-Thu 3:15-6:55-10:25
The Fatal Encounter (STC) Fri-Thu 1:05-4:05-7:15-10:20
Godzilla (PG) Fri-Thu 2:30-5:30-8:30 Fri 3-6:30-10 Sat-Sun 12-3-6:30-10 Mon-Thu 3-6:30-10
Godzilla 3D (PG) Fri-Wed 3-6-9 Thu 3-7:30-9:40 Fri-Sun 2-4:50-7:50-11:15 Mon 2-4:50-7:50-10:50 Tue 2-4:50-7:50-11:15 Wed-Thu 2-4:50-7:50-10:50 Fri 4-7:30-11 Sat-Sun 12:30-4-7:30-11 Mon-Wed 4-7:30-11 Thu 4-11
Godzilla: An IMAX 3D Experience (PG) Fri-Tue 1-3:55-6:40-10:15 Wed 12:20-3:10-10:15 Thu 1-3:55
The Grand Budapest Hotel (14A) Fri-Sun 1:55-4:20-7:10-9:45 Mon 1:55-4:20-7:10-9:50 Tue 1:55-4:20-7:10-9:45 Wed 12:10-2:50-10:05 Thu 1:55-4:20-7:10-9:50
Heaven Is for Real (PG) Fri-Wed 1:45-4:35-7:05 Thu 4:35-7:05 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 2
Her (14A) Fri 1-10 Sat 10 Mon 7:30 Tue 1:30 Wed 4:30 Thu 1:30
Kochadaiiyaan (14A) Fri-Thu 1:40-4:40-7:20-10:10
Legends of Oz: Dorothy's Return (G) Sat-Sun 4
The LEGO Movie 3D (G) Fri-Thu 1:25-3:50
The Love Punch (PG) Fri-Thu 12:35-3:45-6:05-8:35-10:55
The Lunchbox (PG) Fri-Wed 7:40-10:15 Thu 10:15
Maleficent 3D (STC) Thu 7-10:30
Maleficent: An IMAX 3D Experience (STC) Thu 7-10
Million Dollar Arm (PG) Fri-Sun 12:25-4-6:50-10 Mon 12:25-4-6:50-9:55 Tue 12:25-4-6:50-10 Wed-Thu 12:25-4-6:50-9:55
Moms' Night Out (PG) Fri-Thu 9:40
National Theatre Live: The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time Encore (STC) Sat 12:30 Mon 4
Neighbors (18A) Fri 5-8-11:15 Sat-Sun 2-5-8-11:15 Mon 2:45-5:30-10:30 Tue 5-8-11:15 Wed-Thu 2:45-5:30-10:30
The Other Woman (STC) Fri-Thu 12:50-3:25-5:55-8:25-11
Pan's Labyrinth (14A) Fri 4-7 Sat 7 Sun 6:30 Mon 1 Tue 4:30-10 Wed 1:30 Thu 4:30
Predator (STC) Sun 12:45-9:30 Mon 10:30 Tue 7:30 Wed 7:30-10:30
Rio 2 (G) Fri 12:05 Sat-Sun 11:55 Mon-Thu 12:05
Rio 2 3D (G) Fri 2:35-5:05 Sat-Sun 2:20-5:05 Mon-Thu 2:35-5:05
Transcendence (PG) Fri-Thu 7:35-10:35
X-Men: Days of Future Past 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 2:30-3:30-6-7-9:30-10:30 Mon 2:30-3:30-7-10:45 Tue 2:30-3:30-6-7-9:30-10:30 Wed 2:30-3:30-6-7-9:30-10:45 Thu 2:30-3:30-6-7-9:30

TIFF Bell Lightbox 350 King St. West

Finding Vivian Maier (PG) Fri-Sun 12-2-6:45-9 Mon 6:45-9:50 Tue 12-2-5:30-9:30 Wed 12-2-7-9 Thu 12-2-6:45-9
Foxfire: Confessions of a Girl Gang (14A) Fri-Sun 12:15-3:15-6:15-9:20 Mon 9:20 Tue 12:15-3:15-6:15-9:20 Wed 12:30-4 Thu 12:30-4-7
Ida (PG) Fri 12:30-2:30-5-7:10-9:10 Sat-Sun 12:30-2:30-4:45-7:10-9:10 Mon 7:10-9:10 Tue 12:05-2:05-3:30-7:30-9:10 Wed 12:05-2:05-5-7:10-9:15 Thu 12:05-2:05-5-7:10-9:10
Mad Max 2: The Road Warrior (R) Mon 7
Nymphomaniac: Volume I (R) Fri 12:45 Sat 4 Thu 12:45
Nymphomaniac: Volume II (R) Fri 3:30 Sun 4 Thu 3:30

Albion Cinemas 1530 Albion Rd.

Kochadaiyaan (14A) Fri 4:30-7-9:30 Sat-Sun 12-2:30-5-7:30-10 Mon-Thu 4:30-7-9:30 Fri 3:30-9:20 Sat-Sun 1-6:30-9 Mon-Thu 3:30-9:20
Romeo Ranjha (PG) Fri 6:30 Sat-Sun 3:30 Mon-Thu 6:30

Queensway 1025 The Queensway,

The Amazing Spider-Man 2 (PG) Fri 12:20 Mon-Thu 12:30
The Amazing Spider-Man 2 3D (PG) Fri 3:30-7-10:25 Sat-Sun 3:40-7:10-10:30 Mon-Tue 3:40-6:55-10:15 Wed 3:40-7-10:15 Thu 3:40-6:55-10:15
Blended (PG) Fri 1:40-4:30-7:20-10:15 Sat 12:30-4:30-7:30-10:20 Sun 1:40-4:30-7:30-10:15 Mon-Tue 1:20-4:20-7:20-10:05 Wed 4:20-7:20-10:05 Thu 1:20-4:20-7:50-10:05
Star & Strollers Screening, Wed 1
Cabin Fever 3: Patient Zero (STC) Thu 7:30
Captain America: The Winter Soldier (PG) Fri 3-6:40-9:50 Sat-Sun 3:10-6:30-9:40 Mon 3:30-10 Tue 3:30-6:40-9:50 Wed 3:30-9:40 Thu 3:30-6:40
Fading Gigolo (14A) Fri 1:20-3:50-6:10-8:40-11 Sat 12:15-2:50-5:40-8:15-10:45 Sun 12:25-2:50-5:40-8:15-10:45 Mon-Thu 12:35-3-5:30-8-10:25
Godzilla (PG) Fri 12:30-3:40-6:50-10 Sat 12-3-6:20-9:20 Sun 12:05-3-6:20-9:20 Mon-Thu 12:30-3:20-6:20-9:20 Thu 6-9:15
Godzilla 3D (PG) Fri 2:10-5:20-8:30 Sat-Sun 12:50-3:50-7-10 Mon-Thu 2-5-8:20 Fri 3:50-7:10-10:30 Sat 12:40-3:50-7:10-10:30 Sun 12-3:20-6:30-9:50 Mon-Wed 3:20-6:30-9:50 Thu 3:40 Fri 1:10-4:20-7:30-10:40 Sat 1:35-4:40-7:40-10:40 Sun 1:30-4:40-7:40-10:40 Mon-Thu 1:10-4:10-7:10-10:10
The Grand Budapest Hotel (14A) Fri 10:45 Sat-Sun 10:55 Mon 9:30 Tue-Wed 9:10 Thu 10:35
Heaven Is for Real (PG) Fri 12:25 Sat 12:10 Sun 12:30 Mon-Tue 1 Wed 12:50 Thu 1
Maleficent 3D (STC) Thu 7-9:40 Thu 7-9:45
March of the Penguins (STC) Sat 11
The Metropolitan Opera: Werther - Encore (STC) Sat 12 Mon 6:30
Million Dollar Arm (PG) Fri 1:50-4:50-8-10:55 Sat 12:45-3:45-6:40-9:45 Sun 12:10-3:45-6:40-9:45 Mon-Tue 12:55-3:55-7-9:55 Wed 12:55-3:55-6:40-10 Thu 12:55-3:55-7-9:55 Fri 2:35-6:10-9:30 Sat 2:45-6:10-9:30 Sun 1:30-5-8:30 Mon-Wed 2-5:10-8:30 Thu 2:50
A Million Ways to Die in the West (14A) Thu 9:55
Neighbors (18A) Fri 12:10-12:40-2:30-3:10-5:10-5:50-7:40-8:20-10:10-10:50 Sat 11:50-12:40-2:40-3:20-5:20-6-7:50-8:30-10:20-11 Sun 12:40-2:40-3:20-5:20-6-7:50-8:30-10:20-11 Mon-Wed 12:40-1:40-3:10-4-5:40-6:30-8:10-9-10:35 Thu 12:40-1:40-3:10-4:40-5:40-8:10-10:35 Fri 3-6:10-9 Sat 12:20-3-6:10-9 Sun 12-2:50-5:40-8:30 Mon-Thu 2:50-5:40-8:30
The Other Woman (STC) Fri 12:15-2:50-5:30-8:10-10:55 Sat 11:30-2:20-5:10-8:10-10:50 Sun 11:50-2:20-5:10-8:10-10:50 Mon-Thu 1:50-4:50-7:40-10:20
Predator (STC) Sun 12:45 Wed 7:30
Rio 2 (G) Fri 2:20 Sat 11:40 Sun 12 Mon-Wed 12:45 Thu 2:30
Rio 2 3D (G) Fri 5-8:05 Sat-Sun 2:30-5:30-8:20 Mon 3:25-6:40 Tue-Wed 3:25-6:10 Thu 5:10
X-Men: Days of Future Past (PG) Fri 12:50-4-7:10-10:20 Sat-Sun 1-4:10-7:20-10:25 Mon-Tue 12:50-3:50-6:50-9:50 Wed 3:50-6:50-9:50 Thu 12:50-3:50-6:50-9:50 Fri 3:20-6:40-10 Sat 12-3:20-6:40-10 Sun 2-6-9:20 Mon-Wed 2:30-6-9:15 Thu 3:10-6:30-10:15
Star & Strollers Screening, Wed 1
X-Men: Days of Future Past 3D (PG) Fri 12:10-3:20-6:30-9:40 Sat 12:20-3:30-6:50-9:55 Sun 11:45-12:20-3:30-6:50-9:55 Mon-Wed 2:10-5:20-8:30 Thu 1:30-2:10-4:30-5:20-7:30-8:30-10:30 Fri 1:30-4:40-7:50-11 Sat 11-1:55-4:55-8-11:05 Sun 1:50-4:55-8-11 Mon-Wed 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:30 Thu 4:10-7:30 Fri 4:20-7:40-11 Sat 1-4:20-7:40-11 Sun 12:30-3:40-7-10:20 Mon-Wed 3:40-7-10:15

Woodbine Centre 500 Rexdale Blvd

The Amazing Spider-Man 2 (PG) Fri-Thu 12:45-3:40-6:40-9:35
Blended (PG) Fri-Tue 1-4-6:55-9:30 Wed 4-6:55-9:30 Thu 1-4-6:55-9:30
Godzilla (PG) Fri-Thu 12:55-3:50-6:35-9:25
Maleficent (STC) Thu 7-9:30
Million Dollar Arm (PG) Fri-Thu 1:05-3:55-6:30-9:15
Neighbors (18A) Fri-Thu 1:10-4:10-7-9:20
The Other Woman (STC) Fri-Wed 7:05-9:45
Rio 2 (G) Fri-Thu 1:15-4:05
X-Men: Days of Future Past (PG) Fri-Thu 12:50-3:45-6:45-9:40

Kingsway Theatre 3030 Bloor St. West

Dom Hemingway (14A) Fri 11:30-10:30 Sat 10:30 Mon-Thu 11:30
Finding Vivian Maier (PG) Fri-Thu 2:25-7:30
The Galapagos Affair: Satan Came to Eden (G) Fri 12:25 Sun 12:25 Tue 12:25 Thu 12:25
The German Doctor (PG) Fri-Thu 5:45
God's Not Dead (PG) Fri-Thu 3:45
Ida (PG) Fri-Thu 1-7:30-9
Mistaken for Strangers (G) Fri-Sat 10:30
Mr. Peabody & Sherman (G) Sat-Sun 11:15
Night Train to Lisbon (14A) Fri-Thu 5:40
Particle Fever (STC) Sat 12:25 Mon 12:25 Wed 12:25
Le Week-end (14A) Fri-Thu 4-8:55

Humber Cinema 2:2442 Bloor St. West

Blended (PG) Fri 4:20-6:50-9:40 Sat-Sun 1:15-4:20-6:50-9:40 Mon 4:20-6:50-9:40 Tue 1:15-4:20-6:50-9:40 Wed-Thu 4:20-6:50-9:40 Mon 1
Godzilla (PG) Fri 4:10-7:10-9:30 Sat-Tue 1:30-4:10-7:10-9:30 Wed-Thu 4:10-7:10-9:30
Neighbors (18A) Fri 4:30-6:40-9 Sat-Tue 1:45-4:30-6:40-9 Wed-Thu 4:30-6:40-9
X-Men: Days of Future Past (PG) Fri 4-7-9:50 Sat-Tue 1-4-7-9:50 Wed-Thu 4-7-9:50

Beach Cinemas 1651 Queen St. E

The Amazing Spider-Man 2 (PG) Fri 3:30-7-10:10 Sat-Sun 12-3:30-7-10:10 Mon-Thu 7-10:10
Godzilla 3D (PG) Fri 4:15-7:15-10 Sat-Sun 1:15-4:15-7:15-10 Mon-Thu 7:15-10
Million Dollar Arm (PG) Fri 3-6:30-9:15 Sat-Sun 12:15-3-6:30-9:15 Mon-Thu 6:30-9:15
Neighbors (18A) Fri 4:45-7:45-10:20 Sat-Sun 2-4:45-7:45-10:20 Mon-Thu 7:45-10:20
Rio 2 (G) Sat-Sun 11:45
X-Men: Days of Future Past (PG) Fri 3:45 Sat-Sun 12:30-3:45
X-Men: Days of Future Past 3D (PG) Fri 4:30-6:45-7:30-9:45-10:30 Sat-Sun 1:30-4:30-6:45-7:30-9:45-10:30 Mon-Thu 6:45-7:30-9:45-10:30

Fox Theatre 2236 Queen St. E

Draft Day (PG) Fri-Sat 9:15 Sun 4:15-9:15
The Face of Love (PG) Mon 9:15 Thu 7
The Lunchbox (PG) Fri 7 Sat 4:15-7 Sun-Mon 7 Thu 9
Muppets Most Wanted (G) Sat-Sun 2
Student Film Festival (STC) Tue-Wed 7-9

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Empress Walk
5095 Yonge St

The Amazing Spider-Man 2 (PG) Fri 4:10 Sun 12:50-4:10 Tue 3:40 Wed-Thu 3:20
The Amazing Spider-Man 2 3D (PG) Fri-Sat 7:15-10:25 Sun 7:10-10:25 Tue 7:10-10:25 Wed-Thu 10:25
Blended (PG) Fri 5:10-8-10:45 Sat 2:20-5:10-8-10:45 Sun 1:30-4:30-7:20-10:10 Mon-Thu 4:30-7:20-10:10
Fading Gigolo (14A) Fri 2:35-5:05-7:35-10:05 Sat 12:10-2:35-5:05-7:35-10:05 Sun 2:35-5:05-7:35-10:05 Mon-Thu 5:05-7:35-10:05
Godzilla (PG) Fri 3:15-6:20-9:20 Sat-Sun 12:25-3:15-6:20-9:20 Mon-Thu 3:15-6:20-9:20
Godzilla 3D (PG) Fri 4-7-10 Sat-Sun 1-4-7-10 Mon-Thu 4-7-10
Godzilla: An IMAX 3D Experience (PG) Fri 4:50-7:50-10:50 Sat 1:50-4:50-7:50-10:50 Sun 1:40-4:40-7:40-10:30 Mon-Wed 4:40-7:40-10:30 Thu 4:20
Maleficent: An IMAX 3D Experience (STC) Thu 7:30-10:15 The Metropolitan Opera: Werther - Encore (STC) Sat 12 Mon 6:30
Million Dollar Arm (PG) Fri 3:30-6:30-9:30 Sat-Sun 12:30-3:30-6:30-9:30 Mon-Thu 3:30-6:30-9:30 Neighbors (18A) Fri 5:20-7:45-10:15 Sat-Sun 2:50-5:20-7:45-10:15 Mon 4:05-10:15 Tue-Thu 5:20-7:45-10:15
X-Men: Days of Future Past (PG) Fri 3:50 Sat-Sun 12:40-3:50 Mon-Thu 3:50
X-Men: Days of Future Past 3D (PG) Fri 4:30-6:50-7:35-9:50-10:40 Sat 1:25-4:30-6:50-7:35-9:50-10:40 Sun 1:05-4:10-6:50-7:15-9:50-10:20 Mon-Thu 4:10-6:50-7:15-9:50-10:20

SilverCity Yorkdale 6
3401 Dufferin St.

The Amazing Spider-Man 2 (PG) Fri-Thu 12:30
The Amazing Spider-Man 2 3D (PG) Fri-Wed 3:50-7:10-10:30 Thu 3:40
Blended (PG) Fri 1:50-4:40-7:30-10:20 Sat 11:10-1:50-4:40-7:30-10:20 Sun-Thu 1:50-4:40-7:30-10:20
Godzilla (PG) Fri-Sun 1-4 Mon-Thu 12:40-3:40
Godzilla 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 7-10:05 Mon-Thu 6:40-9:40 Fri 1:50-4:50-7:50-10:50 Sat 11-1:50-4:50-7:50-10:50 Sun 1:50-4:50-7:50-10:50 Mon-Thu 1:20-4:20-7:20-10:20
Maleficent 3D (STC) Thu 7-9:40
March of the Penguins (STC) Sat 11
Million Dollar Arm (PG) Fri-Thu 12:45-3:45-6:50-9:50
Neighbors (18A) Fri-Sun 12:30-3-5:35-8:10-10:45 Mon-Thu 2-5-7:45-10:25
The Other Woman (STC) Fri-Sun 2-4:45-7:40-10:25 Mon-Wed 1:45-4:35-7:25-10:15 Thu 7:25-10:15
Rio 2 (G) Fri-Thu 12:50
Rio 2 3D (G) Fri-Thu 3:30
X-Men: Days of Future Past (PG) Fri-Sun 12:40-3:50 Mon-Wed 12:30-3:40 Thu 1:30-4:30
X-Men: Days of Future Past 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 6:30-7-9:35-10:10 Mon-Wed 6:20-6:50-9:30-10 Thu 6:20-6:50-7:30-9:30-10-10:30 Fri 1:35-4:40-7:45-10:50 Sat 11-1:55-4:55-7:55-10:55 Sun 1:35-4:40-7:45-10:50 Mon-Wed 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:30 Thu 12:30-3:40

Silvercity Fairview
1800 Sheppard Ace.

The Amazing Spider-Man 2 (PG) Fri-Sat 12:50 Sun-Thu 12:40
The Amazing Spider-Man 2 3D (PG) Fri-Sat 3:55-7:10-10:20 Sun-Wed 3:50-7-10:10 Thu 3:50-10:10
Blended (PG) Fri 1:35-4:35-7:20-10:10 Sat 11:05-1:35-4:35-7:20-10:10 Sun-Tue 1:20-4:10-7:05-9:50 Wed 3:35-7:05-9:50 Thu 1:20-4:10-7:05-9:50 Star & Strollers Screening, Wed 1
Cabin Fever 3: Patient Zero (STC) Thu 7:30
Godzilla (PG) Fri-Sat 1-4 Sun-Thu 12:45-3:45
Godzilla 3D (PG) Fri 1:50-4:50-7-7:45-10-10:40 Sat 11:10-1:50-4:50-7-7:45-10-10:40 Sun-Wed 1:30-4:30-6:45-7:30-9:40-10:20 Thu 1:30-4:30-6:40-7:25-9:35-10:20
Maleficent 3D (STC) Thu 7-9:40
March of the Penguins (STC) Sat 11
Million Dollar Arm (PG) Fri-Sat 1:45-4:45-7:40-10:35 Sun-Tue 1-4-7:10-10:05 Wed 4-7:10-10:05 Thu 1:10-4:15-7:10-10:05 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Neighbors (18A) Fri 2:25-5-7:50-10:15 Sat 11:20-2:25-5-7:50-10:15 Sun-Thu 1:50-4:40-7:20-9:55
The Other Woman (STC) Fri-Sat 7:15-9:50 Sun-Tue 7:25-10 Wed 10
Rio 2 (G) Fri 1:55 Sat 11:25 Sun-Thu 1:40
Rio 2 3D (G) Fri 4:40 Sat 1:55-4:40 Sun-Thu 4:20
X-Men: Days of Future Past (PG) Fri 12:40-3:40 Sat 11:30-12:40-3:40 Sun-Thu 12:30-3:30
X-Men: Days of Future Past 3D (PG) Fri-Sat 1:30-4:30-6:45-7:30-9:45-10:30 Sun-Wed 1:10-4:15-6:30-7:15-9:30-10:15 Thu 1-4-6:30-7:15-9:30-10:15

Coliseum Scarborough
300 Borough Dr.

The Amazing Spider-Man 2 (PG) Fri-Thu 12:40 The Amazing Spider-Man 2 3D (PG) Fri-Wed 4-7:20-10:40 Thu 4-7:20
Blended (PG) Fri-Thu 1:25-4:20-7:10-10:10
Captain America: The Winter Soldier 3D (PG) Fri-Wed 6:45-10:05
Godzilla (PG) Fri-Thu 1:15
Godzilla 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 1:30-4:15-4:35-7:15-7:40-10:20-10:45 Mon-Thu 1:35-4:15-4:35-7:15-7:40-10:20-10:45
Kochadaiiyaan (14A) Fri-Thu 12:55-3:45-6:40-10 Maleficent 3D (STC) Thu 7-9:30
March of the Penguins (STC) Sat 11
Million Dollar Arm (PG) Fri-Thu 12:50-3:50-6:55-9:55 A Million Ways to Die in the West (14A) Thu 10:40
Neighbors (18A) Fri-Sun 12:30-3-5:30-8-10:30 Mon 3-5:30-8-10:25 Tue 12:30-3-5:30-8-10:25 Wed-Thu 3-5:30-8-10:25
The Other Woman (STC) Fri-Sun 2-4:45-7:30-10:35 Mon-Thu 2-4:45-7:35-10:35
Rio 2 (G) Fri 1:10 Sat 11:10 Sun-Thu 1:10
Rio 2 3D (G) Fri 4:05 Sat 1:10-4:05 Sun-Thu 4:05 X-Men: Days of Future Past (PG) Fri-Thu 12:45-3:55-7:05-10:15
X-Men: Days of Future Past 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 12:15-3:25-6:35-9:45 Mon 3:25-6:35-9:45 Tue 12:15-3:25-6:35-9:45 Wed 3:25-6:35-9:45 Thu 3:25-6:35-7:30-9:45-10:30 Fri 1:35-4:40-7:45-10:50 Sat 11-1:55-4:55-7:55-10:55 Sun 1:35-4:40-7:45-10:50 Mon-Wed 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:30 Thu 12:30-3:40

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The Amazing Spider-Man 2 (PG) Fri 12:45 Sat 1 Sun 1:05
The Amazing Spider-Man 2 3D (PG) Fri 4-7:20-10:35 Sat-Sun 4:25-7:45-11 Mon-Thu 3:50-7:05-10:30
Blended (PG) Fri 1:45-4:35-7:30-10:25 Sat 1:45-4:35-7:30-10:20 Sun 11:30-2:15-5-7:50-10:35 Mon-Wed 4:35-7:25-10:20 Thu 2:30-4:35-7:25-10:25 Star & Strollers Screening, Thu 2 Cabin Fever 3: Patient Zero (STC) Thu 7:30 Captain America: The Winter Soldier (PG) Fri-Sun 4:20-7:25-10:30 Mon-Tue 3:45-6:50-9:55 Wed-Thu 6:50-9:55
Godzilla (PG) Fri 12:50-3:45-6:40-9:40 Sat-Sun 12:35-3:40-6:40-9:40 Mon-Wed 3:45-6:40-9:40 Thu 2:15-5:40-8:40
Godzilla 3D (PG) Fri 1:20-4:05-7:10-10:10 Sat 1:15-4:10-7:10-10:10 Sun 1-4-7-10 Mon-Wed 5:15-9 Thu 3:30 Fri-Sun 1:40-4:40-7:40-10:45 Mon-Wed 4:15-7:15-10:15 Thu 4:15-7:15-10:10
The Grand Budapest Hotel (14A) Fri 2-4:45-7:15-9:45 Sat-Sun 4:10-6:45-9:15 Mon-Thu 4:45-7:10-9:45
Heaven Is for Real (PG) Fri 2:50-5:20-7:50 Sat-Sun 11:40-2:10-4:45-7:15 Mon-Tue 5-7:35 Wed 5 Thu 5:15-7:45
Kochadaiiyaan (14A) Fri 1-3:55-6:50-9:55 Sat 1:10-4:05-7-10 Sun 1:15-4:05-7-10 Mon-Thu 3:55-6:45-9:50
Legends of Oz: Dorothy's Return (G) Fri 1:30 Sat-Sun 11:10-1:35
Maleficent 3D (STC) Thu 7-9:35
March of the Penguins (STC) Sat 11
The Metropolitan Opera: Werther - Encore (STC) Sat 12
Million Dollar Arm (PG) Fri 12:50-3:50-6:55-10:05 Sat 12:50-3:55-6:55-9:55 Sun 11:05-2-4:55-8-10:55 Mon-Wed 4:05-7:10-10:10 Thu 3:35-6:35-9:30
A Million Ways to Die in the West (14A) Thu 10:15
Moms' Night Out (PG) Fri 10:15 Sat-Sun 9:50 Mon-Tue 10:05 Wed 10:15
Neighbors (18A) Fri-Sun 12:55-3:20-5:45-8:15-10:50 Mon-Thu 5:25-7:50-10:25
The Other Woman (STC) Fri 2:35-5:15-8-10:40 Sat 11:50-2:35-5:15-8-10:40 Sun 12:15-3:30-6:30-9:30 Mon-Tue 4:55-7:40-10:20 Wed 3:55-7:35-10:05 Thu 4:10-7:35-10
Predator (STC) Sun 12:45 Wed 7:30
Rio 2 (G) Fri 1:50 Sat-Sun 11:20-1:55
Rio 2 3D (G) Fri-Sun 4:30-7:05-9:45 Mon-Wed 4:10-6:55-9:30 Thu 4:50-10:20
X-Men: Days of Future Past (PG) Fri 1:05-4:10-7:15-10:20 Sat-Sun 1:10-4:15-7:20-10:25 Mon-Wed 4-7-10 Thu 3:45-6:55-10:05 Star & Strollers Screening, Thu 2
X-Men: Days of Future Past 3D (PG) Fri 12:40-3:40-6:45-9:50 Sat-Sun 12:40-3:45-6:50-9:55 Mon-Wed 5:30-8:40 Thu 2:25-5:30-9 Fri 1:35-4:40-7:45-10:50 Sat-Sun 11-1:55-4:55-7:55-10:55 Mon-Thu 4:30-7:30-10:30

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The Amazing Spider-Man 2 (PG) Sat-Sun 12:40
The Amazing Spider-Man 2 3D (PG) Fri-Sat 4:10-7:15-10:20 Sun 3:40-6:45-9:50 Mon 5:05-8:10 Tue 4:10-7:15-10:20 Wed 5:05-8:10 Thu 5:05
Blended (PG) Fri 4:20-7:10-10:10 Sat 11:15-1:15-4:20-7:10-10:10 Sun 1:15-4:20-7:10-9:50 Mon 5:30-8:05 Tue 4:20-7:10-10:10 Wed-Thu 5:30-8:05
Captain America: The Winter Soldier 3D (PG) Fri-Sat 9:50 Sun 9:45 Mon 7:30 Tue 9:50 Wed-Thu 7:30
Godzilla (PG) Fri 3:45 Sat-Sun 12:50-3:45 Mon 5-7:45 Tue 3:45 Wed-Thu 5-7:45
Godzilla 3D (PG) Fri 4:50-6:45-7:45-9:45-10:35 Sat 2-4:50-6:45-7:45-9:45-10:35 Sun 1:40-4:30-6:35-7:15-9:25-9:55 Mon 5:40-8:25 Tue 4:50-6:45-7:45-9:45-10:35 Wed-Thu 5:40-8:25
Heaven Is for Real (PG) Sat 2:45 Sun 1:30 Mon 5:15 Wed-Thu 5:15
Maleficent 3D (STC) Thu 8:10
March of the Penguins (STC) Sat 11
Million Dollar Arm (PG) Fri 3:50-6:50-9:40 Sat-Sun 12:55-3:50-6:50-9:40 Mon 5:10-8 Tue 3:50-6:50-9:40 Wed-Thu 5:10-8
Neighbors (18A) Fri 5:20-8:05-10:35 Sat 3-5:20-8:05-10:35 Sun 12:30-2:50-5:10-7:35-10 Mon 6-8:25 Tue 5:20-8:05-10:35 Wed-Thu 6-8:25
The Other Woman (STC) Fri-Sat 5:10-7:55-10:30 Sun 4:10-6:55-9:35 Mon 8:15 Tue 5:10-7:55-10:30 Wed-Thu 8:15
Rio 2 (G) Sat 11:20-1:45 Sun 1:50
Rio 2 3D (G) Fri-Sun 4:40-7:20 Mon 5:05 Tue 4:40-7:20 Wed-Thu 5:05
X-Men: Days of Future Past (PG) Fri 3:30-6:30-9:30 Sat 11:40-12:30-3:30-6:30-9:30 Sun 12:30-3:30-6:30-9:30 Mon 5-6:30 Tue 3:30-6:30-9:30 Wed-Thu 5-6:30
X-Men: Days of Future Past 3D (PG) Fri 4-4:30-7-7:30-10-10:30 Sat 1-1:30-4-4:30-7-7:30-10-10:30 Sun 1-2:15-4-5:20-7-8:20-10 Mon 5:20-7:35-8:20 Tue 4-4:30-7-7:30-10-10:30 Wed-Thu 5:20-7:35-8:20

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2 States (PG) Fri-Thu 4:30-7:30
Heropanti (STC) Fri-Thu 3:30-6:30-9:30
Vallavanukku Pullum Aayudham (STC) Fri-Thu 4-7:15-10:30

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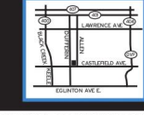

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Last Gang Records defies the odds

Ten-year anniversary. Co-founder talks about the reluctant success of his Toronto indie label

Chris Taylor, a lawyer and founder of Last Gang Records, says he had no idea what he was doing when he started the label. CARLOS OSORIO/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Starting a record label in 2004 was, by Chris Taylor's own admission, "completely ridiculous."

"Everyone was like, 'Why are you starting a record label? Everybody's getting out of the record business. Nobody's getting in the record business,'" chuckles the well-regarded Toronto entertainment lawyer, who nevertheless ignored everyone's good advice and went ahead and started Last Gang Records 10 years ago this month.

Taylor had the last laugh on Thursday, as Last Gang — which has quietly sold more than two million records by the likes of Metric, Death From Above 1979, Crystal Castles, MSTRKRFT and numerous other notable indie names both Canadian and international over the past decade — celebrates its first double-digit birthday with a monster party at the Guvernment featuring DJ sets by a healthy chunk of its roster: MSTRKRFT, Purity Ring, Ethan Kath of Crystal Castles, Huoratron, Electric Youth and many more.

Quiet champions

"We have bands that come in here all the time and they say, 'You put that record out? You did that record?' And it's like, 'Yeah, we didn't write the songs, we didn't invent the bands, but we've done a lot of really cool things.'"

Chris Taylor, co-founder, Last Gang Records

Taylor originally founded the imprint simply so his pals in Toronto's Metric could finally get a record out.

In his capacity as a lawyer, he'd managed to snag the band four different demo deals with major labels, only to see them rejected. And when Metric finally did sign with Restless Records in 2001, the label shut down before its debut album, Grow Up and Blow Away, could be released, demanding in excess of $100,000 the band didn't have to get it back.

Frustrated, Taylor sheepishly told his wife he was taking $35,000 of his own money to start a label, voyaged to the Pop Montreal festival and asked Donald Tarlton, of Donald K. Donald Events and DKD Records notoriety, for help as a partner.

"I said, 'I'm starting a label, I have no idea what I'm doing,'" he recalls. "We shook hands and said, 'OK, let's go' ... That's how the label started. There was no business plan or design."

Last Gang's first release would be Metric's Old World Underground, Where Are You Now?, a critically hailed sleeper-hit that would eventually go gold in Canada and heralded platinum albums to come in Metric's Live It Out and Fantasies

The label's second gold-album-to-be, Toronto hard-rock duo Death From Above 1979's You're a Woman, I'm a Machine, would follow in late 2004.

Neither band's success story was instant, however, and their ascents came only with a lot of patience, hard work and unwavering faith in the bands' potential to succeed on Last Gang's part.

"It was a trickle and it was a f–ing kick in the nuts every f–ing day, and you can quote me on that. It wasn't fun. It was money, money, money, money and time to get it going. Even Death from Above, it wasn't like: 'Here's Death From Above,' and the whole world freaks out," says Taylor.

Death From Above's abrupt breakup helped usher in the second phase of Last Gang's existence when Taylor signed bassist Jesse Keeler's electronic project MSTRKRFT. The move signalled a prescient turn to dance music and electro-pop — Crystal Castles, Tiga, Chromeo, Boys Noize, Purity Ring et al. — that endures to this day, a moment in time when exactly that kind of music is all the rage. Indeed, Last Gang is currently enjoying "the biggest song we've ever had, bar none" in Chromeo's smash-hit single Jealous (I Ain't With It).

Even Death From Above has a sure-to-be-huge second album on the way in the fall, part of a crowded Last Gang slate that also includes a highly anticipated new record from Vancouver's New Pornographers later this year. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Last Gang's greatest hits

Last Gang Records' five most successful releases to date, as so deemed by label founder Chris Taylor.

- **Metric, Live It Out (2005).** "The album that truly broke the band."
- **Death From Above 1979, You're A Woman, I'm A Machine (2004).** "A genre-bender that was adored by many, from Trent Renzor to Justice."
- **Crystal Castles, Crystal Castles I (2008).** "The world's biggest cult band had to eventually put out a first album."
- **Metric, Old World Underground, Where Are You Now?** (2003) "The album that started it all for the Last Gang nation."
- **Boys Noize, Oi Oi Oi (2007).** "Before the Sahara Tent and before 'EDM' was the fashion."

Bry Webb flexes his free will on new album

When the Constantines elected to end their bar-busting run as one of rock's fiercest live bands, the decision was made in part because gravel-voiced frontman Bry Webb wanted to start a family.

And yet, if Webb's paternal instinct heralded the widely admired Toronto band's hiatus — and he calls himself the "instigator" of the split — it's now his son, Asa, who inspires him to make music at all.

"All the songs I'm writing and releasing are essentially for my son," said the thoughtful Webb recently over coffee at a west Toronto café. "That's how I'm justifying putting things out in the world at this point."

If Webb's solo debut, 2011's Provider, captured him in the throes of new-dad euphoria, the shrewdly observed follow-up Free Will (out this week) finds Webb broadening his view, with some grime on the lens.

It is, in his own words, a less idealistic record, with the singer feeling "upset and guilty" about bringing a new person into a world that feels increasingly to him as if it's in disarray.

It's a topic Webb explores most explicitly on the austere Let's Get Through Today, which he calls an "apology for the world he's inheriting," but the theme is tackled from other angles elsewhere.

The crawling Policy is about the "inaccessibility" of democracy and the tendency for politicians to avoid divisive stances. Morning-dew stunner AM Blues is about the destructive effect distance can have on a personal life.

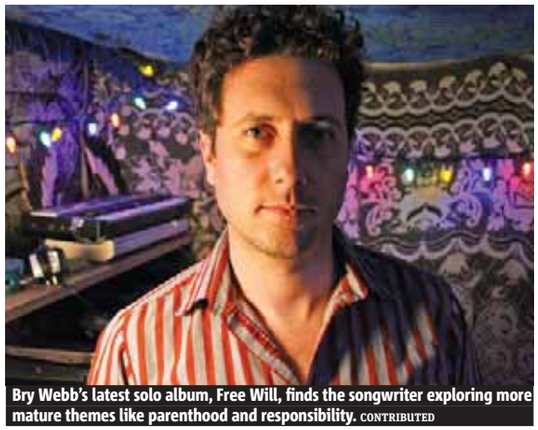
As on Provider, Webb tends toward uncluttered folk, with whispers of lap and pedal steel guitar imbuing gentle elements of country.

After the pure physicality of the Constantines' serrated rock, Webb admits that playing such quiet tunes onstage required adjustments. He's only recently become comfortable.

"I was always 10 times more nervous playing that kind of (solo) show than playing with the Cons," said Webb, lanky and tall with coarse curls piled atop his head. "There was a real comfort in the volume of that band.

With the recent news of the Constantines' re-formation for a few upcoming shows and the 11th anniversary rerelease of their landmark Shine a Light, Webb will again feel the comfort of a gusty amp at his back.

In the interim, he has Asa when yearning for a racket. Webb says his three-year-old son — "he's a threenager; that's what they call them on the parenting forums," he says with a laugh — has proven adept at slamming on percussion, even if he otherwise doesn't have much patience for his dad's music.



Bry Webb's latest solo album, Free Will, finds the songwriter exploring more mature themes like parenthood and responsibility. CONTRIBUTED

"When I'm playing at home, I don't think he likes it at all," Webb said. "I'll sit and try to learn a song or something and he'll just keep saying, 'Stop.' Because I think in that moment he realizes I'm not paying attention to him.

"He's awesome to play music with, though," he added.

"Drums obviously are the (best) because it's the most instant feedback — instant and biggest feedback. So we have garbage cans and a giant marching band (drum). He loves sitting behind that. We'll just jam." THE CANADIAN PRESS

No longer a rocker

"Towards the end of the Cons ... I didn't have any perspective on loudness. So exploring the other end of the dynamic spectrum is good."

Bry Webb
on writing songs as a solo artist instead of with the Constantines

3 songs for the weekend

A melancholy acoustic folkster, and two tracks all about girls, girls, girls

Sound Check

ALAN CROSS

Sloppy Love/ Nathan K.

A beautifully sad song about a lost love from a self-described anti-freak folkist from Michigan. The video features Nathan lip-syncing the song while trying to hold a sheep. No, I don't know why. From his upcoming album, Methodist Girls, due July 8.

Go to Go/ ADAM

The song by this five-piece all-female EDM group from the Netherlands is fine. But what is really grabbing attention is the video that features all five (fully-clothed) members' attempt to sing the song while a vibrator — unseen — enters the situation. Sort of NSFW, yet not.

Girls/Sizzy Rocket

A brilliant cover of the Beastie Boys classic, re-engineered to be non-sexist and pro-female. Well done.

See that symbol? It means you can scan this image with your Metro News app to listen to Alan's recommended songs this week.

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Video game review

Name. Mario Kart 8

For. Nintendo Wii U

Rated. Everyone

With karts that can stick to the ground, Nintendo is free to take their courses vertical into gravity-defying swells and loops that — thanks to enriched, dazzling graphics — you feel in the pit of your stomach. The core racing remains unchanged, but with a better sense of visual motion. It's the music though, with unfortunate jazz wanderings, that feels one-dimensional. Yes, there are new characters and new boomerang and flower weapons, but it's the online racing and video sharing that add new twists to this family favourite.

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Troubled mayor? Sounds familiar...

Wink wink. Creators of Canadian sitcom Spun Out can't a-Ford to tell us the inspiration for a politician character in the season finale

You'd think plopping a character based on Toronto Mayor Rob Ford into a sitcom would be a no-brainer. The embattled mayor, currently in rehab, has been the subject of late-night barbs for well over a year. He even flew to Los Angeles in March to be a guest of Jimmy Kimmel Live, where the host mocked him for dressing "like a magician." Just a week or so ago, David Letterman ran a "Top 10 reasons Rob Ford is taking a leave of absence." No. 10: "His drinking is beginning to interfere with his crack smoking."

On Friday, a rather tubby, out-of-control mayor seeks help on the season finale of the new Canadian comedy Spun Out. "Troubled Mayor Seeks Image Makeover," reads the headline on the release promoting the episode. The character is described as, "Lewd. Obnoxious. Drunken. The city's most controversial mayor."

Just don't confuse him with anyone who might actually be the current mayor of Toronto, pleads Spun Out co-creator Jeff Biederman.

Spun Out stars Dave Foley as the head of a public relations firm staffed with people "who can spin anybody's problems but their own." Celebrities sometimes come seeking help. An earlier episode featured a bratty pop star who might have reminded some viewers of Justin Bieber.

Biederman and fellow executive producer and showrunner Brent Piaskoski certainly were aware of Rob Ford when the idea of having an out-of-control major seek help from their fictional public relations firm was first kicked around the writers' room.

But the spin they're putting on this Spun Out episode is that any resemblance to T.O.'s troubled top official is purely a coincidence.

"We went with 'mayor' not because of the obvious comparisons to our city's mayor," says Biederman.

"It was mostly because if we go with 'premier' and we do sales internationally, people might not know who that is."

Watch it

Find out about Mayor "Johnson's" troubles on the season finale of Spun Out, airing tonight at 8 p.m. ET on CTV

Lawyers generally read scripts to check for potentially litigious issues before an episode goes to camera. The legal team at Spun Out did caution the producers to back off some Ford associations. Suggestions to call the character "Dodge" or other car names were quickly dismissed. (He's called "Johnson" in the episode.)

Biederman says Ford's real-life antics had not hit their "fever pitch" back when the episode was written. Spun Out is shot before a live, studio audience, with this episode going before the cameras way back last summer. Even then, Biederman admits, the crowd in the bleachers could tell where the writers were going with this.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Dave Foley stars on Spun Out, a Canadian sitcom about a PR firm. BELL MEDIA

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METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Miley thinks JLaw needs to get it together

CHRISTINA PACIOLLA
Metro World News

Jennifer Lawrence stopped by Late Night with Seth Myers to promote her new film X-Men: Days of Future Past, and told Myers and the audience an embarrassing story. Not our JLaw!

In the past, Lawrence says, she hasn't gone to any awards show after-parties, but this year, she brought her best friend to the Oscars and the duo partied down. In fact, JLaw partied so hard that she threw up all over the front porch at Madonna's "big fancy party" post-Oscars.

"I've never gone out after Golden Globes or Oscars or anything. I'm just so sick of people by that point. I'm like, 'Ugh, God!' But this time I was like, 'I'm going out.' And I puked all over," she reveals. "I was in such bad condition, and I look behind me while I'm puking and Miley Cyrus is there like, 'Get it together.'"

When Miley Cyrus (she of tongue-wagging, molly-bragging, weed-cake-eating fame) looks at you like that, that's when you know you've got a problem.

For Axl Rose, retirement is Paradise City: Guns N' Roses set to split soon

It looks like it's the end of the road for Guns N' Roses, as the rock band is set to split following its current Las Vegas residency so that Axl Rose — the only remaining original member of the band — can retire. "Axl has made enough money and wants to stop touring. He is considering retiring," a source tells Radar Online. "Band members have been told their calendars are free following Vegas. Axl is considering retiring and it's done. Band members and support staff were surprised when told the news and are actively looking for work."

Axl Rose

Mike Myers says Kanye 'spoke a truth' during Katrina relief telecast

It only took nine years, but Mike Myers is finally chiming in on his infamous befuddlement standing next to Kanye West after the rapper let loose with, "George Bush doesn't care about black people," during a televised Hurricane Katrina relief benefit. "For me it isn't about the look of embarrassment on my face, it is truly about the injustice that was happening in New Orleans," Myers tells GQ magazine. "I'm the guy next to the guy who spoke a truth ... I can definitively say that it appeared to me watching television that had that been white people, the government would have been there faster."

Mike Myers ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

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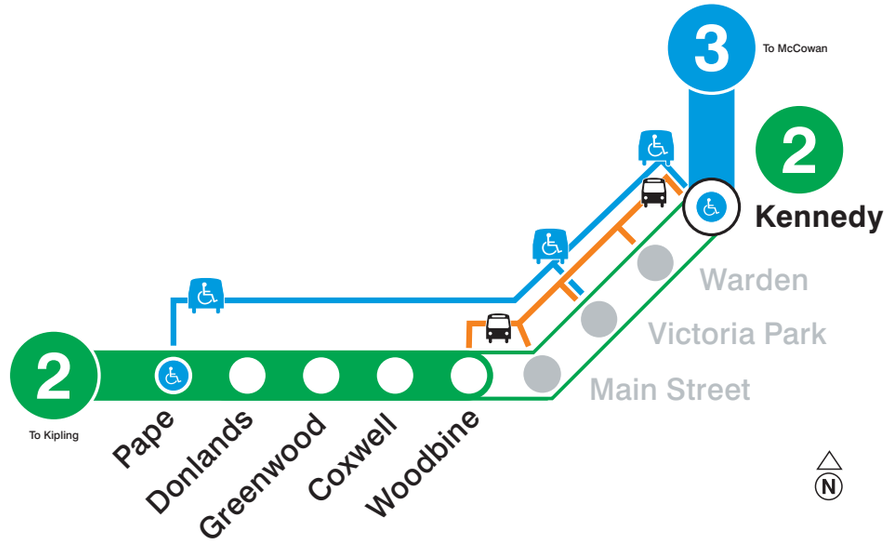
- May 24–25
- June 14–15



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Liquid Assets

Where are you, spring?

LIQUID ASSETS
Peter Rockwell
@therealwineguy
liquidassets@eastlink.ca
Facebook: therealwineguy

I've given up waiting for spring, not to mention summer. I keep looking at the calendar and then out the window, and nothing seems to be jiving.

Though it may be rainy and cold in most parts of our "wonderful" country, I'm determined to embrace reality and sit out on my deck even if it is with an umbrella in hand.

The liquid philosophy that certain wines are tied to a specific season has always rubbed me the wrong way. While a big-boned red may not be the ideal tipple after mowing the lawn in early August; that doesn't mean you couldn't enjoy a glass with a barbecued steak come dinnertime.

Of course, some wineries target the seasons. E & J Gallo's Barefoot Refresh Summer Red ($11.95 - $15.99) has one in its name.

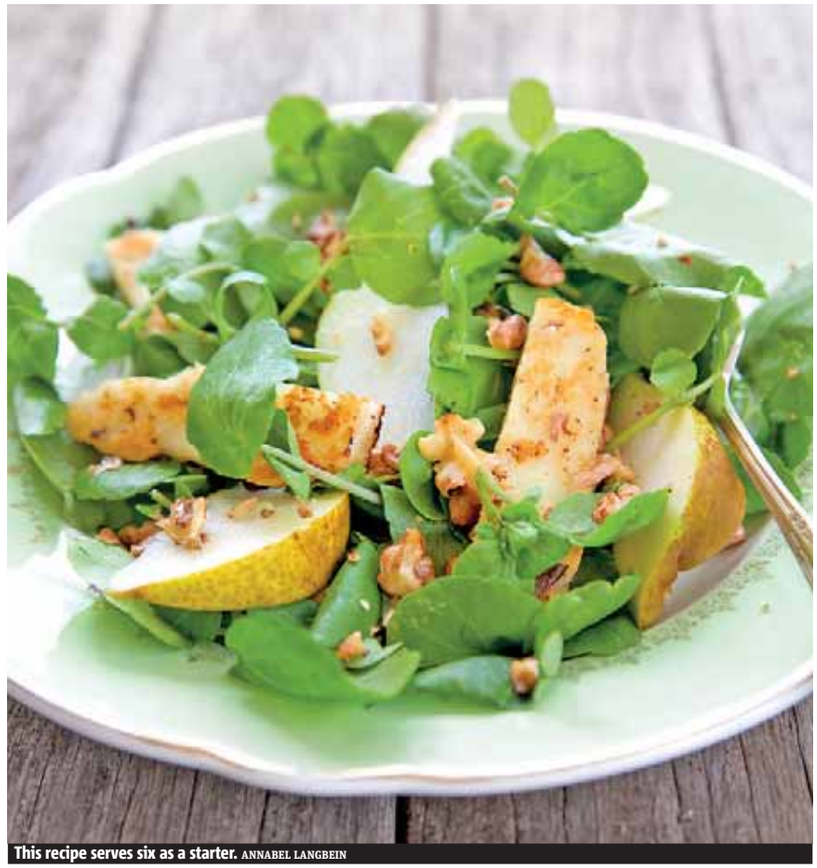
A blend of pinot noir rosé and moscato, it's a glass full of lightly sweet, freshly crushed red berries that go as well with warmer weather as it would with Christmas dinner.

Serving tip: Try over ice. **PRICES REFLECT THE RANGE ACROSS THE COUNTRY. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.**

Want a delightful contrast of juicy, crunchy and creamy textures? Annabel Langbein, who brings good food into today's fast-paced world, shows us a salad that meets those expectations from her cookbook, The Free Range Cook.

Pear, Walnut and Haloumi Salad: A plate of contrasts

THE FREE RANGE COOK
Annabel Langbein
gustotv.com



This recipe serves six as a starter. ANNABEL LANGBEIN

1. Heat 3 tbsp of the neutral oil in a fry pan and fry the walnuts over a medium heat until lightly browned — about 2-3 minutes. Lift out of the oil with a slotted spoon and drain on a paper towel. Reserve the oil to dress the salad. Alternatively, roast them dry on an oven tray at 180 C for 12-15 minutes.

2. Halve and core the pears and slice each half into 6-8 wedges. Place in a mixing bowl and toss gently with the lemon juice.

3. Heat the remaining 1 tbsp oil in a fry pan over a high heat. Fry the haloumi slices until they are golden on both sides.

4. Place watercress or spinach in a large mixing bowl. Add the pears and their juices, the walnuts and their oil (if the walnuts have been baked, add 2 tablespoons olive oil), the fried haloumi and the avocado, if using. Season to taste with salt and pepper then toss gently. Transfer to a serving bowl or individual plates to serve.

Ingredients

- 4 tbsp neutral oil (e.g. grapeseed)
- 1 cup fresh walnut pieces
- 2 just ripe pears
- juice of 1/2 lemon
- 250 g haloumi, thinly sliced
- 6 handfuls (150 g) fresh watercress sprigs or baby spinach leaves
- 2 avocados, cut into chunks (optional)
- salt and ground black pepper

WATCH ANNABEL LANGBEIN FREE RANGE COOK MONDAY TO THURSDAY AT 5:30 P.M. EST, STARTING APRIL 28 ON GUSTO TV, CANADA'S NEW FOOD & LIFESTYLE CHANNEL. VISIT GUSTOTV.COM FOR FULL PROGRAM LINEUP AND MORE GREAT RECIPE IDEAS.

This recipe serves six. ANNABEL LANGBEIN

Pears in Verjuice: A unique take on dessert

1. Peel the pears, leaving them whole with their stalks intact. Take a fine slice off the bottom of each pear to enable them to stand for serving. Put to one side.

2. Place Verjuice (see right), honey and cinnamon stick into a pot and bring to a simmer, stirring once or twice. Add the pears and poach for 30 minutes, turning occasionally.

3. Remove the pears from the pot and reduce the sauce by two thirds. Serve the pears drizzled with sauce. They will keep for over a week in the fridge.

Ingredients

- 6 just-ripe pears with stems intact
- 3 cups (750 ml) Verjuice
- 1/4 cup honey
- 1 cinnamon stick

Verjuice

- 1.6 kg unripe grapes

Verjuice

1. Purée the grapes in a food processor. Press the pulp through a strainer lined with 4-5 layers of fine muslin to remove the skins and seeds. Pour the juice into a jug or bottle and refrigerate for use within 12 hours or freeze for later use.

ANNABEL LANGBEIN, GUSTOTV.COM

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CÎROC Coconut

Date: Soon
Location: Canada

What says summer more than the sweet smell of coconut? How about adding some ultra premium vodka. For the first time ever, CÎROC Coconut will be available in the hottest venues and liquor stores across Canada, and unlike most other vodkas, CÎROC is crafted from fine French grapes instead of grains. There's a reason Diddy's the brand ambassador — this is luxury in a bottle.

Burger Week

Date: May 28-31
Location: Various

More than 60 restaurants throughout the city (including the likes of Holy Chuck Burgers, Rock Lobster Food Co., and The County General) will be offering up specialty burgers for only $5 each. The four-day event leads up to Burger Day on June 1, when you'll be able to try slider versions of all your favourites. Basically, if you're paying more than $5 for a burger in Toronto next week, you're doing it wrong.

Ride For Heart

Date: June 1
Location: Gardiner Expressway and Don Valley Parkway

It's a pretty eerie sight to behold Toronto's busiest roadway completely devoid of cars. And while it's perhaps equally as strange to suddenly see it fill up with 14,000 cyclists, knowing that they're all pedalling to raise money for the Canadian Heart and Stroke Foundation makes it a pretty heartwarming scene as well. 25, 50, and 75 km routes are all available, but it's not the length of the ride that matters — it's how much you raise.

Brunch with Bennyfits

Location: O&B Yonge & Front

Brunch: You love it, we love it, O&B loves it. In fact, they love it so much that all summer long they'll be giving you $3 Caesars and mimosas at their Café Grill. But that's not all that makes this event notable; it's the fact that O&B will also be donating $1 from every eggs Benny order to the Fife House that makes this brunch option one of the best in the city.

MEC Bikefest

Date: May 31
Location: Trinity Bellwoods Park

Summer always brings an invasion of velocipedes. Relax, we're not getting all Jurassic Park on you, we're just using a fancy word for bikes. If two wheels is the only way you get around you're going to want to be at Trinity Bellwoods when MEC brings demos, clinics, group rides, retailers, tune-ups, and more all to one spot. How will they have room, you ask? Bike valet parking. Seriously.

Flashdance

Date: May 27-June 8
Location: Ed Mirvish Theatre

Whether you know the movie (and every single step Jennifer Beals takes) or only J-Lo comes to mind, Flashdance has been influencing how people dance alone in front of a mirror for years. The pop culture phenomenon is taking the stage for an 11-day run at Mirvish Theatre and reviews suggest this is one of the can't-miss musicals of the year. Oh, what a feeling.

Tim Hudak's apprenticeship plan: MADNESS

Is Tim Hudak really suggesting that trainees should make up half of the workforce that builds and maintains nuclear plants? Is that how he wants oil refineries and chemical plants constructed?

That's what could happen if, by the "stroke of the pen" (as he puts it), he orders a ratio of one apprentice to every licensed journeyperson in our and other construction trades.

Hudak doesn't seem to realize that only a small minority of Ontario's 156 apprenticeable trades require more journeypersons than apprentices, and then only in certain situations. There are very good reasons for that, especially in areas that are acutely safety-sensitive, like our workplaces.

In fact, an independent, province-wide, comprehensive review confirmed the apprentice ratios only two years ago.

Tim Hudak's plan to create 200,000 apprentice positions with a "stroke of the pen" is both misinformed and dangerous. Think about it when you cast your ballot June 12.

A message from Ontario's skilled Boilermakers.

For more information, see **boilermaker.ca/nohudak/**

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Scan the image with your Metro News app for more from Fenway Park and Thursday's other MLB day games.

4 SPORTS

NBA owner

Cuban apologizes for racism remark

Dallas Mavericks owner Mark Cuban apologized Thursday to Trayvon Martin's family over his choice of words in an interview in which he addressed bigotry and prejudice.

"We're all prejudiced in one way or the other," Cuban said in the Inc. interview. "If I see a black kid in a hoodie and it's late at night, I'm walking to the other side of the street. And if on that side of the street, there's a guy that has tattoos all over his face — white guy, bald head, tattoos everywhere — I'm walking back to the other side of the street."

"In hindsight I should have used different examples," Cuban wrote Thursday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

'Dome opener'

Jays expected to pop the top

For the first time this season the Rogers Centre roof will be open this weekend — weather permitting — as the Blue Jays take on the Oakland Athletics.

Final testing of the 25-year-old stadium's retractable roof was completed Thursday afternoon and, in theory, it could be open for Friday night's game against the A's. But with thunderstorms in the forecast, Saturday is the more likely the "Dome Opener."

Many fans were disappointed earlier this month when the roof remained closed despite a clear-skied, sunny afternoon with temperatures above 20 C.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Tokarski, Habs look to bounce back in Game 3

Montreal Canadiens goalie Dustin Tokarski stops a shot by the New York Rangers' Rick Nash during the first period of Game 3 of the Eastern Conference final, Thursday, in New York. For the game's result and more go to metronews.ca.

SETH WENIG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

League's-best Buehrle helps Jays sweep Sox

MLB. Pitcher maintains hot streak as Toronto sluggers hit 67-homer mark versus Boston

Mark Buehrle got his major league-leading eighth win with a big boost from Toronto's powerful lineup.

Neither was surprising.

"Look what he's done all year," Blue Jays manager John Gibbons said after a 7-2 win over the Boston Red Sox on Thursday. "Who's pitched better in baseball?"

Buehrle (8-1) has eight wins through May for the first time since 2002 and an ERA of 2.16. He gave up two runs in the first two innings, but by then Toronto had seven, starting with homers on consecutive pitches by Melky Cabrera and Jose Bautista in the first inning.

That gave the Blue Jays a major league-high 67 homers and gave Buehrle a big cushion.

The 15-year veteran lefty blanked the Red Sox for his final five innings and allowed seven hits and no walks while striking out five in seven innings.

Dustin McGowan pitched two shutout innings as the Blue Jays took a half-game lead over the New York Yankees in the AL East.

"It's nice, obviously" to lead the majors in wins, "but I've always said you can go out your next eight starts and (stink) and be under .500," Buehrle said. "I try to throw it out the window and get ready for my next start."

Blue Jays starting pitcher Mark Buehrle pitches to the Red Sox during the first inning at Fenway Park, Thursday. CHARLES KRUPA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Toronto improved to 8-2 in its past 10 games, while Boston lost its seventh straight.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Uruguay sighs with relief

Suarez expected back for World Cup

Uruguay striker Luis Suarez had arthroscopic surgery on his left knee on Thursday but was expected to recover in time for the World Cup.

The mother of the Liverpool striker said Suarez had successful surgery to repair cartilage damage.

"The surgery is over and thank God everything went well. What Luis had wasn't as serious as we thought," Suarez's mother, Sandra Diaz, said after speaking to him on the phone. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Big deal or no deal: TFC not out of red

MLS. Plenty of bumps littering Toronto's road to top of the table

A Bloody Big Deal? Or a Bloody Big Frustration?

If you're talking to TFC players, coaches and fans, it's more of the latter at this point of the MLS season.

Despite spending more than $100 million in the offseason on flashy, headline-grabbing signings of big-name stars like Jermain Defoe and Michael Bradley, Toronto FC is outside of a playoff spot today.

While it's early in the 34-game season — TFC has played a league-low eight times — they are 4-4, seventh in the East Conference and two points out of a playoff berth, heading into their road game Friday night against Sporting Kansas City.

Was that expected? In a sense, yes. Everyone involved realizes a disjointed training camp, complicated by late arrivals of Gilberto and Defoe, dragged the roster backwards at a time when it needed to jell.

A rash of injuries, including the loss of Defoe for three games, left coach Ryan Nelsen scrambling with a patchwork roster.

The challenge only gets more difficult, with Bradley, the club's essential midfielder, gone for up to two months because of the World Cup.

Brazilian 'Keeper Julio Cesar is also likely leaving the team for good after the World Cup.

Michael Bradley is on hiatus from Toronto FC until the U.S. men's national team is eliminated from the World Cup. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

But in another sense, TFC is hardly the sum of its parts. The massive spending spree sparked massive fan interest world wide and unprecedented expectations of success. At the end of last year, MLSE president Tim Leiweke had vowed the team would make the playoffs for the first time in its history, and hopes only rose when Defoe and Bradley were signed.

TFC, because of its injuries and lack of games together, has been forced to repeat the defensive tactics from a 2013 squad that was far less talented. It's a team that mirrors its predecessor, with a few players who can make things happen on their own.

"I think a little bit of concern, yes ... there's a number of games in hand and injures, so it's been difficult to say what the team is really like," says Duncan Fletcher, a TFC season-ticket holder since 2009, one of the most prolific tweeters on the team, and managing editor of the Waking the Red blog.

"But what we've seen so far doesn't add up to the Bloody Big Deal yet. Having all those injures and now, losing Julio and Michael, you have to think that's not what Tim Leiweke had in mind when he signed all those guys up."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

USMNT shuns Donovan

In a formality, TFC midfielder Michael Bradley was named to the United States 23-man roster for the World Cup, while American career scoring leader Landon Donovan was among seven players cut on Thursday.

- Donovan has 57 goals in 156 international appearances and has been the face of U.S. soccer for the past decade, both with the national team and with MLS, where he's won five titles. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
Money issues have taken centre stage for some time but now the Sun has changed signs you should be a bit more relaxed about what you own and what you earn. If your social life has suffered make up for it today.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
You need to come down to earth and deal with matters of a practical nature. Above all, you must be sensible with money, especially if you are the kind of Taurus who takes an "easy come, easy go" attitude to cash.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
Your head and heart are working in harmony now, so anything you begin over the next few days will be successful. Don't let the doubters talk you into changing your plans.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
To make sense of what occurred in recent weeks you need to stand back and see life from a wider perspective. What is it all for? Where is it all taking you? These are the sort of questions you need to ask.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
It may seem as if you have reached your limits. There are people who will happily help you out but what you need to realize is they can't read your mind. If you need help — ask!

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Over the next few days you will get the chance to put some of your big ideas to the test. One of those ideas could turn your life around and send you off in a direction you never imagined.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
One of the best times of the year for you is now under way, so get rid of any negative attitudes and start looking forward to all the good things that will be coming your way.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
The more you try to give up things you know aren't good for you, the more you end up indulging. Maybe you need to wallow in what you desire until you desire it no more.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Now that the Sun has moved into the partnership area of your chart, you will have to take what others think and see and need into account more than you usually do.

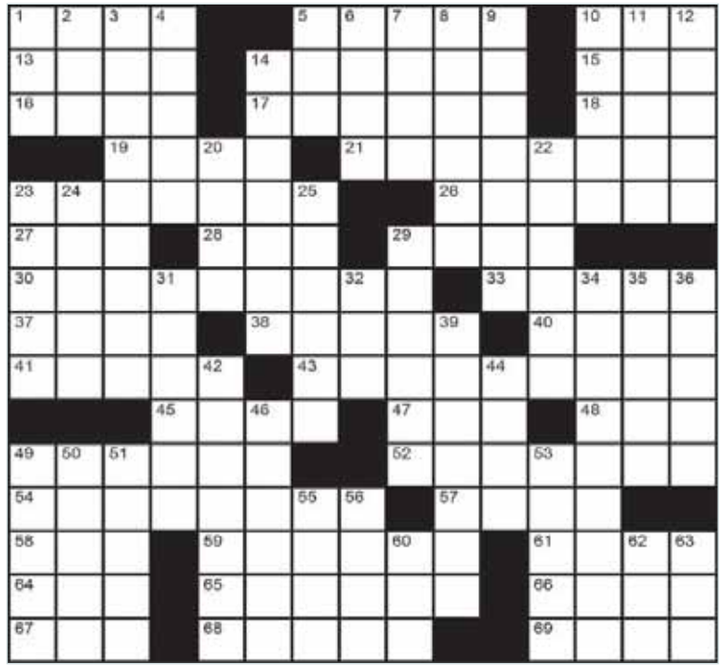
♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Over the next few days you will have to decide what is worth carrying on with and what needs to be junked. Don't let sentiment play a part in your decision: put your needs first.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Dark days are behind you and everything light. Well, maybe it's not that good — yet. But it's now within your power to change your life in major ways. Forget about yesterday, today is the only day that matters.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Social activities are important, of course, but your home life is what you should be focusing on now. If there are problems in the domestic sphere it's unlikely you will be happy in other areas, so look for solutions – you'll find them. SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

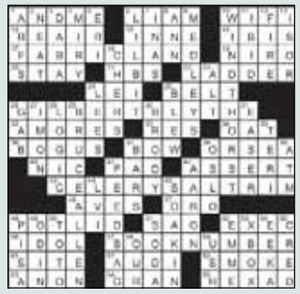
See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.
BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



Across
1. Mag. readership
5. Plank
10. Alsatian artist Jean
13. Crosswords creature
14. Follow
15. Chemin de __ ('Railroad' in French)
16. Agyness __ (English model)
17. Canadian channel, Travel + __
18. "Eww! Don't tell me!"
19. Sunup
21. Stir-fry veggies: 2 wds.
23. City Opera Vancouver's new show making its world premiere tonight (See #54-Across for more!)
26. Seizes control
27. Handheld add-on
28. __-pack (Sit-up doer's goal)
29. Non-nobleman
30. "Don't Walk Past": New Wave hit for what Canadian band?: 2 wds.
33. __ male
37. Honolulu gifts
38. TV show: French
40. Persian Gulf land
41. Kiln kinds
43. Southwestern Ontario: Lake Erie community with an Imperial Oil refinery
45. Tilled
47. Active ingred. in marijuana
48. "Alice" boss
49. Literary introductions
52. __ Cat
54. For the opera about the Mohawk/Quaker poet and performer at #23-Across... Music: Tobin Stokes - __: Margaret Atwood
57. Tartan-wearing bunch
58. Noun's li'l modifier
59. Beauty treatments site: 2 wds.
61. Palomino's pace
64. Bee's follower
65. On _ __ basis
66. Stagnate
67. Ouest's opposite
68. Brewer's __
69. Convict's unit

Down
1. Scoundrel
2. Dvorak's "Symphony No. 9 __ _ Minor"
3. Canadian actor whose roles include Michael on "La Femme Nikita" and Maurice Richard in "The Rocket" (2005): 2 wds.
4. Ship's 'locked' route
5. Greyhound vehicle
6. Hostile-to-Hobbits humanoids
7. "__ __ example..."
8. "Supermodel (You Better Work)" singer
9. __-__ diving
10. Blue Rodeo's "__ the Rain"
11. Update a route
12. Fuddy-duddy
14. Phased-out Canadian coins
20. Will-o'-the-__
22. __ Works and Government Services Canada
23. Mr. Picasso
24. Cop _ __ (Bargain in court)
25. Stretch
29. Some fabrics
31. Biblical heroine
32. Canadian rapper, JD __
34. k.d. lang's "Friday Dance __"
35. Cod-like fishies
36. Anoint, archaically
39. 'E' in PETA
42. Glass Tiger hit
44. 'Alphabet' suffix
46. Mansion's setting
49. Canada __ (Pink-hued government building in Edmonton)
50. Fairground features
51. __ d'art
53. Coldplay's recent song
55. Ms. Banks
56. 'Psych' suffix
60. Toronto-born actor Mr. Mastroianni
62. Chicago's state [abbr.]
63. __. number

Yesterday's Crossword



Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

3		9		7	1			8
	4		6					5
	2		3				9	
2							5	
		4	1		3	7		
	6							1
	3				5		7	
4					9		2	
9			7	2		4		

Yesterday's Sudoku

3	6	1	2	8	5	7	9	4
2	5	7	9	4	1	3	6	8
4	9	8	7	6	3	1	2	5
5	8	9	6	1	7	4	3	2
1	2	3	4	5	8	9	7	6
6	7	4	3	2	9	8	5	1
7	1	6	5	3	4	2	8	9
9	4	2	8	7	6	5	1	3
8	3	5	1	9	2	6	4	7

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